



# THE AUSTRALIAN POLL DORSET JOURNAL

VOLUME 53 / NUMBER 2

SEPTEMBER 2023

## Full house at Poll Dorset Youth Day



INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE...



**DO WE NEED A  
BIG SPRING**  
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**MORE DOLLARS  
FROM EWE  
LAMBS**  
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**AUS SHEEP &  
WOOL SHOW**  
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# Shellal



## 44<sup>th</sup> Annual sale

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### On-Property Hawksdale VIC @ 1pm



Sale will be Interfaced Live Video  
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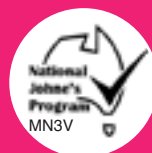


TAG	BWT	WWT	PWWT	PEMD	LMY	LEQ	TCP
220066	0.32	8.65	13.01	3.57 <sub>TOP 10%</sub>	4.18 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	139.74	147.61
220043	0.54	11.66 <sub>TOP 10%</sub>	16.92 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	2.29	4.78 <sub>TOP 10%</sub>	138.80	147.41
220035	0.52	11.19 <sub>TOP 10%</sub>	16.01	2.57	4.46 <sub>TOP 10%</sub>	133.90	144.74
220110	0.42	9.87	15.39	2.75	3.99	134.30	144.12
220163	0.57	11.16 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	16.37	2.09	4.12 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	132.07	142.35
220115	0.38	9.48	14.28	2.00	4.31 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	133.31	141.49
220068	0.56	11.08 <sub>TOP 20%</sub>	16.28	2.06	3.72	129.72	139.87

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**Website: [www.shellal.com](http://www.shellal.com)**



\*Enquiries also welcome on our 2022 drop stud ewes

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What a challenge the lamb industry has! The norms that underpin our ability to create a stable production model are being challenged across the board. A few years ago when the drought broke, I highlighted the potential change in the ewe base. In addition to this, the changes we have seen across the globe due to the pandemic has further impacted demand and logistics for sheep (meat and wool) products, the availability of on farm labour, and a shift in commodity prices are leading farmers to consider their current systems. It highlights how external pressures can impact profitability, and a reliable production model is key to success. From a terminal sire point of view, our focus must be on providing an input that can provide profitability regardless of the production model that is in place.

In the lamb business we know there is one equation that leads to profitability.

Genetics + Nutrition + Marketing = \$ in your pocket

The interesting thing from a terminal sire perspective is that the sire of choice impacts all of these elements.

Sire genetics give capacity for growth, finishing ability, muscle, lean meat yield and eating quality; this is the obvious and most valuable contribution to the equation by the sire. Where the aim of the lamb producer is to minimise days to marketable weight, with the right sire genetic choice there is an increased likelihood of meeting target marketing dates, reduction in production risks, and the potential to increase number of lambs turned off and optimising stocking rates throughout the year. If we add carcass quality genetics that provide capacity for larger muscle distribution in the loin and high quarter, high lean meat yield and high intramuscular fat, then the meat processors will also be provided with a carcass that is more valuable to them.

Every farm has its own nutrition model, and this leads to very different outcomes for lamb turn off age and weight. Nutrition is the greatest influencer on production outcomes, and year on year climatic conditions mean

that no one year will be the same as the next. Despite this, terminal sire choice impacts feed conversion, enabling lambs to reach maturity with the correct finish. This can be the difference between selling a grass finished lamb or turning it off as a store and requiring grain to finish. The more inputs required to finish the lamb, the less profits are available to the business.

We have started to see a significant increase in branded lamb to the consumer. The impact of this on lamb production systems is becoming more prevalent, and is likely to increase. The challenge that we have as a broad reaching terminal sire is that our product (PD genetics) is used across production systems that are variable in way they are produced. At this point in time, marketing Poll Dorset genetics to the consumer is not where we can influence the profitability. Our impact is in the proof that the PD sired prime lamb adds value to the meat processor by providing a consistently high-quality carcass. This confidence and assurance drives demand for PD sired lambs and increases prices paid.

In the next 12 months the APDA board will undertake a complete review of the Rules and Regulation of the Association. This will be done with the assistance of a lawyer who specialises in breed society constitutions. As a result of the SGM in March 2023, it was decided that a review and update was necessary. Our preferred time frame for completion is mid 2024, ready for any changes to be presented at the 2024 AGM. If there are any changes made to the Rules, all members will be required to vote to agree before they are adopted. If the review is unable to be completed in time for the 2024 AGM, it will be presented the following year.

I would like to welcome Tania King to the role of Vice-President of the APDA. Tania has taken on the position knowing she will step into the chair only 3 months later. I thank her for stepping up, and I urge you all to give her your full support.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the passing of Dale Moore of Punchgrove, Tasmania. Dale and his family have always brought such fun and laughter where ever they go. The impact of both Kevin and Dale's sheep would be in most studs, and I think you would be hard pressed to find a stud without a Penrise or Punchgrove sire somewhere in the pedigree. Condolences to all the Moore family.

As this is my last Presidents report, I thank you all for the opportunity to serve this great breed of ours.

**Isabele Roberts**

PRESIDENT



## THE AUSTRALIAN POLL DORSET JOURNAL

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# YENTRAC

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For Sale at Australasian Dorset championships

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Show 2023 Feature show

Offering 3 rams from the  
show team at Australasian  
Dorset Championships

### SALE DATES

**Tatura:** 27th September  
(110 Craven Rd)

**Ballarat:** 18th October  
(New location Ballarat Showgrounds)

*Watch our Facebook page for further details*

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# ACROSS THE PENS

## SHOWS

Inside this issue is a report on the recently held Australian Sheep and Wool Show where the feature breed was our very own Poll Dorset and Sheepvention held two weeks later. Congratulations to the winners at these and all events and good luck to those showing at the Australasian in September.

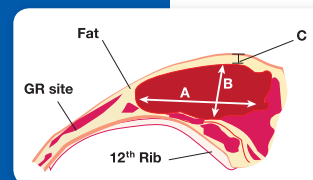


## FLOCK BOOK

The flock book has just been printed so will be in your mail box in the not too distant future. **There are two changes to regulations, please look at the reworded regulation 35 re DNA protocol and the addition of a new regulation 11k with the requirement that all registered rams requiring stud or semen transfer must be DNA tested.**

## SPRING SALES

Good luck everyone with your spring sales – a full listing is inside the Journal with updates on our website.



# Could you be missing out?

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- HIGHER YIELD CARCASSES



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*An on-farm tool used by Stud & Commercial Breeders. Run by dedicated breeders who understand the Prime Lamb Industry.*

# PROMOTIONS OFFICER REPORT

*The last few months have been full of Poll Dorset activities, and it's great to see our breed in amongst the wider agricultural space.*

The Intercollegiate Meat Judging (ICMJ) competition was held in Wagga Wagga, and APDA was a major sponsor for the first time. I presented to the students, lecturers and industry leaders, and spoke about the role of the Poll Dorset in the lamb industry, and most importantly how our genetics impact the meat processing sector. For me I had a real appreciation of being in the room with the next generation of the red meat sector, and it highlighted the importance of putting our breed into their space, positioning ourselves as future focussed and being grounded in industry. For any ag students, if you have the opportunity to be involved in ICMJ, I would highly recommend it. In addition this, I am hoping to find a way that APDA youth might be able to be involved for next years program.

Speaking of youth activities, over 200 students at the Cowra PD Youth Day! This event is so appreciated by the agriculture teachers, as the students learn and interact with commercial skills and knowledge. With an ever increasing number of schools being involved, it certainly looks like there is a need for more sheep youth events.

Our main ram selling season is upon us and APDA promotional activities are kicking along. A bigger online presence has been implemented this year, as well as regional based promotions. If any members need promotional gear for their upcoming sale, contact the office to organise.

Lastly, I would like to thank Jamie-Lee for the work she has done for us. Jamie-Lee is taking maternity leave from mid

September. We will be looking to fill the position immediately, so if you have a recommendation for the role, please let Margot know. The position description is available from the office, and will be advertised shortly.

I wish you all well in the upcoming season.

*Isabele Roberts*

PROMOTIONS CHAIR

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SEP 2-10** Royal Adelaide Show
- SEP 8-10** Australasian Dorset Championships
- SEP 21-OCT 1** Royal Melbourne Show
- SEP 23-30** Royal Perth Show
- OCT 5-7** Royal Launceston Show
- OCT 20-22** Royal Hobart Show



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# National Ag Traceability Strategy

Agriculture ministers from across Australia have come together to deliver the country's first National Agricultural Traceability Strategy, to protect and grow our agriculture sector.

The Strategy was officially launched at an Agriculture Ministers Meeting (AMM) in Perth recently.

The 10-year Strategy will guide research, as well as industry and government investment to improve our already strong systems, increase efficiencies, and deliver benefits to farmers.

It also supports the agriculture industry's goal of growing the sector to a \$100 billion a year industry by 2030.

The National Agricultural Traceability Strategy was developed in 2022/23 through industry and government working together, with a wide range of stakeholders along agricultural supply chains, from producers to retailers.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Murray Watt said the landmark strategy will help protect and grow Australian agriculture.

"Increasingly, consumers and markets want to know where their food and fibre comes from, and that's exactly what traceability systems provide," Minister Watt said.

"Better traceability systems help Australian farmers show where and how food was produced, bringing more value to their production.

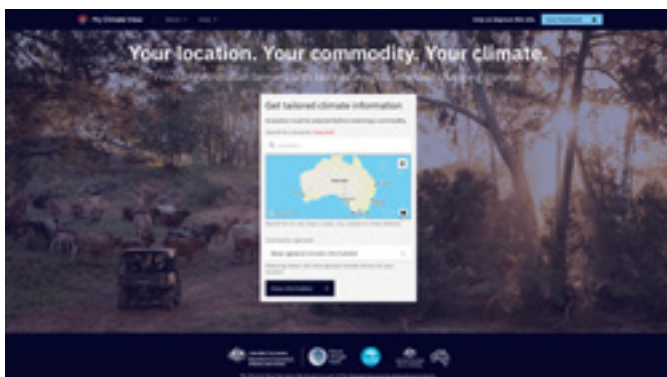
"These systems also help our farmers adapt to changing trade relations, regulatory environments, biosecurity risks and consumer preferences.

"A modern national traceability system is how we can prove Australia's credentials in areas like biosecurity, food safety and sustainability, in order to gain a market advantage for our producers."

## My Climate View

The Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO's digital information product 'My Climate View', has been updated to help more farmers make informed decisions now to build climate resilience for decades to come.

Previously known as the Climate Services for Agriculture online platform, My Climate View is unique in providing farmers with



critical data to assess how climate trends, including changes to temperature and rainfall, might impact their business for specific commodities and date ranges in their location, to a 5 km<sup>2</sup> resolution.

BOM Program Director, Climate Services for Agriculture, Elizabeth Johnston said My Climate View is a product that has been designed by farmers for farmers.

"It is critical Australian farmers and communities have the locally relevant and commodity-specific information they need to prepare for the future," she said.

"The product presents past and future climate information, all in one place."

CSIRO's Drought Resilience Mission lead, Dr Graham Bonnett, said more than 2,000 people who work in agriculture had been engaged across Australia.

"My Climate View has been developed to help farmers understand the aspects of future climate that are most relevant to them and what they farm," Dr Bonnett said.

You can access it here: <https://myclimateview.com.au/>

## Lamb slaughter at its highest level in two and a half years

The National Livestock Reporting Service's (NLRS) voluntary weekly slaughter report recorded a national lamb slaughter volume of 444,479 for the first week of August.

This was the highest lamb slaughter has been since January 2021 and demonstrates just how much lamb supply is available.

The third week of January 2021, through the supply backlog caused by the Victorian processor capacity limit in late 2020.

If January 2021 figures are excluded, that slaughter is the highest since the 2019 drought.

It was 64,093 more than the same week last year – or 17%.

It was also notable as it was the second highest weekly slaughter reported in the month of August on record, only behind the first week of August in 2016.

This increase in supply is the result of several factors:

- new season lambs hitting the market
- last season's lambs being sold before their teeth cut
- producers selling excess lambs as the rebuild matures.

Most supply is being driven by NSW and Victoria with current slaughter numbers in these two states sitting about 30,000 above the highest weeks of 2022.

Latest ABS data released at the end of August shows lambs slaughtered in the June 2023 quarter decreased from the previous quarter by 0.2% to 5.7 million.

This was significantly less than the same quarter last year, however, when 5.1 million lambs were processed.

Lamb meat production in the June 2023 quarter increased from March by 1.2% to 139,207 tonnes. This was up from 131,300 tonnes for June 2022 quarter.

# Students flock to Cowra for Poll Dorset Youth Day

More than 200 secondary age youth attended this year's Central West NSW Region Poll Dorset Youth Day.

Teachers were lining up to take their students to Cowra to get a first-hand look at the prime lamb industry, with seven new schools in attendance at the bi-annual event.

Organiser Ruth Klinger said 215 students from 11 schools plus some independent kids, spread out from Walla Walla near Albury through to Sydney and across central NSW attended the event.

So why so popular?

"The teachers say the fact it is hands-on and practical, and we've always tried to work it so that the talks that we do are practical to the lamb industry but also practical to what the teachers have to teach in their curriculum - working them both in together," Mrs Klinger said.

"Actually this year we had 70 kids that wanted to come that we had to turn away, we just couldn't take them all."

Generous sponsorship from the likes of Thomas Food International, Meat and Livestock Australia and many others means the day is free to attend - another drawcard for schools and students.

A number Poll Dorset breeders from across the Central West region assist with the day, presenting on both their stud roles and other roles within the sheep industry, along with speakers from the likes of the NSW Local Land Services.

"We want to promote Poll Dorsets, but we recognise that obviously most of the kids aren't going to end up breeding Poll Dorsets, but guaranteed they'll either be involved in the prime lamb industry or they will eat a chop or some other lamb product later on - so if we can give them a taste of what it is to have stud sheep, but also practical lamb industry information, that's the aim," Mrs Klinger added.

Attending the event for the first time this year was Kings School from Sydney, with Head of Agriculture Tony Turner bringing 10 students.

Kings School recently established their own Poll Dorset stud with foundation sheep from the Hillden flock at Crookwell, NSW.

"It just made sense to go down a sheep showing pathway as a different alternative to cattle and particularly to appeal to the year seven and eight boys who are smaller and younger, and also day boys who had never worked with animals before, so it's really nice to have smaller livestock for them to start with," Mr Turner said.

The schools Ag Club allows not only students who choose to study agriculture academically to be involved with livestock, but also students who have academic interests elsewhere to "keep their hands involved in farming" according to Mr Turner.

## Konongwootong Dorsets Ram Sale

10 Stud Rams 200 Flock Rams

**Open Day:**  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October  
10am-2pm

**Annual sale:**  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October  
Auction: 11am



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# YOUTH YARNS

"In terms of its significance, we are an export nation and we rely on agriculture so much and if we are not having youth enter the industry our industry is going to die.

"Particularly from an education standpoint, if we can get some of these people to take agriculture on educationally and be the next lot of teachers or the next leaders in science and research, that's really my goal as to why to keep us moving forward in agriculture."

Mr Turner and his colleagues have long had a passion for the meat sheep industry, which is what led them to Poll Dorsets.

"Poll Dorsets gives us the opportunity to have a stud line yet also use them as part of our crossbreeding program to produce those beautiful prime lambs that we eat on our plates every day," he said.

"It flows in with our paddock to plate philosophy, and we imbed it in our school culture...if you understand the product in the paddock, it helps you understand the product on your plate."

Mr Turner added that the Poll Dorset youth day gave his students an opportunity to see other aspects of the breed and industry outside the show scene.

"The boys are looking for the finesse on how to judge a sheep properly to be competitive in that space so it is an opportunity to learn here by industry people what do I look for in a shee, how do I do judging, and then to hear other students make their presentations, will help them learn more about the sheep and their characteristics and how to present themselves in junior judging."

While there were seven new schools represented at this year's event, plenty of long-term attendees returned, including The Riverina Anglican College, making the trip for their sixth year.

TRAC has their own stud Poll Dorset sheep and agriculture teacher Trevor Dawson said their level of knowledge available to students kept them coming back.

"Where else do I go to get this many experts in one place - I can tell the kids anything a million times and an expert comes in and says it once and they go "did you hear that" - and I love that, the more people that can teach the students about the Poll Dorset sheep the better," he said.

"The show team come and hangs off every word and we have good conversations on the way home and they last for weeks afterwards, and I have kids that keep coming back - I've

actually got two boys that are on my cattle team now that have come back for this event because they get so much out of it.

"Poll Dorsets are a great focus animal and we come here and we get told Poll Dorsets still sire about 60 per cent of fat lambs in Australia so I think we are on the right track."



*Attendees from Kings College at the Poll Dorset Youth Day*



*Attendees learn about condition scoring and sheep nutrition*







Lot 2 - K223-22

Lot 1 - K148-22

# PRACTICAL, PROFITABLE, PERFORMANCE GENETICS

## 2023 ANNUAL RAM SALE

TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER  
12.30 PM AEDT

On-Property, Aria Park & AuctionsPlus



### 2023 POLL DORSET FEATURE SIRES

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Valma 219-20 - a moderate framed ram with high ASBV's & low birth weight.

350+  
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[lucy@kurralea.com](mailto:lucy@kurralea.com)



# NSW Poll Dorset championships reserve champion ewe goes to Finley High School

*Courtesy of Rebecca Nadge, The Land*

Finley High School were all smiles after winning the most successful school exhibitor and also taking out the reserve champion ewe at the Poll Dorset championships in Cowra.

It was the first time the school had exhibited at the event.

Agriculture teacher Gary Webb said the show had been on the school's radar for a few years and this year brought a team of seven students to show 13 exhibits.

"We had a great day," he said.

"We find preparing ewes is more our forte, it's hard for rams particularly when you're competing against all the really big studs.

"But the ewes looked fantastic and we had a beautiful ewe there that went on to be reserve - it was very exciting."

Mr Webb said the Frost family's Hillden Poll Dorset stud, Bannister, had been a great supporter of the school and they had been using semen from the stud for several years.

The reserve champion ewe was by Hillden 800-08.

The school joined about 25 Poll Dorset ewes each year and sold about 8 to 10 rams locally, mostly as flock rams, he said.

"As well as the sheep, our biggest thing is we have a lot of Shorthorn cattle," Mr Webb said.

"We do quite well with our Shorthorn cattle, go to a lot of shows as well, and a lot of carcass animals.

"This year it could be between 16 and 18 steers as carcass animals for the Melbourne Show."

Mr Webb said the school hand fed the stock year-round but a poor season could impact local farmers and their ability to donate hay to the program.

"Whilst it was dry a while ago after sowing we had 50mm of rain just last week - it's fantastic now, looking really, really good," he said.

He praised the school's farm assistant, Gordon Close, for his efforts in helping to prepare the sheep, and said the support from artificial insemination companies, shearers, and farmers was hugely important.

Ag teacher Robyn O'Leary said being in the show team equipped the students with a range of skills, including the confidence to communicate with different people.

"We try and give every kid that's interested in exhibiting cattle or sheep that opportunity, whether or not they're studying ag," she said.

"We feel it's an important skill, so many of the kids that go on out in the workforce will come back and say to us how great it was doing ag, doing junior judging.

"Our kids are not afraid to go up to someone and say, 'we really like your sheep, what are the chance of getting the semen in that ram'."

Having students understand where food and fibre came from was another important aspect, she said.

"It's 21 years since we started our stud and it's been a long way and it's been a long grind," she said.

"Persistence and perseverance pays off."

Judge Gary Armstrong, Armdale Park, Marrar, said the ewe was a good type.

"Finley would have been absolutely stoked," he said.

"She was a really good ewe, she was right up there and they had her presented really well.

"She looked the part on the day."

Secretary Roger Traves said it was great to see the school compete against some of the bugger studs and take home reserve champion.

He hoped it would encourage more schools to consider entering the competition.

Mr Traves also congratulated The Riverina Anglican College, Wagga Wagga, for their exhibits.



*Finley High School Show team . Back: Lily McNamara, Maggie Bramley, Claire Ingram, Mikayla McDonald . Front: Chelsea Singleton Cheyenne Tucker and Erica Hammond holding sheep*

## Do we need a big spring?

The current seasonal conditions and implications for farmers was presented by Phil Graham of Graham Advisory via Meat and Livestock Australia's Productivity and Profitability Webinar series last month.

Mr Graham ran through a range of different online tools currently available to producers to help them assess current conditions and forecasts, and the impact that will have on their spring.

But first, Mr Graham looked at pasture growth in relation to operating profit (dollars per hectare), using 40 years of weather data.

"If we start looking at the impact on operating profit, whether it is a tight spring or a big spring [as long as its not a failed spring] doesn't make much difference to profitability," he said.

Of course the other influence was the variation of markets, which were harder to account for.

"But we don't need big springs to make money...the bigger the spring the lower the pasture quality, the lower the digestibility and we've all seen that over the past three or four years.

"If spring is on the tight side, quality is better therefore stock do better.

"All you need to think about at present is am I going to get a spring - forget about needing a big spring."

Mr Graham said three main things controlled the size of the spring, being soil moisture at the end of winter, herbage mass at the end of winter, and rainfall in spring.

Livestock weight going into spring also played a role, but was less impactful.

Tools Mr Graham gave a crash course in to see how the season was faring in each region included the root zone soil moisture data and rainfall predictions available on BOM; the Agriculture Victoria soil moisture monitoring tool, and Farming Forecaster.

Launched in 2020, Farming Forecaster provides a collection of pasture forecasts across a number of regions in NSW, Tasmania

and Western Australia - and is expanding to other areas.

The system brings together relevant weather, soil moisture, pasture production and livestock performance information, using publicly available data from local on-farm soil moisture probe and weather station networks.

Along with CSIRO's farm simulation modelling tool Grass Gro it produces real-time updates of pasture conditions and forecasts into the next four months.

After looking at the tools, Mr Graham said for those who assess the upcoming spring to be poor, they should already be deciding up and implementing a strategy to get through.

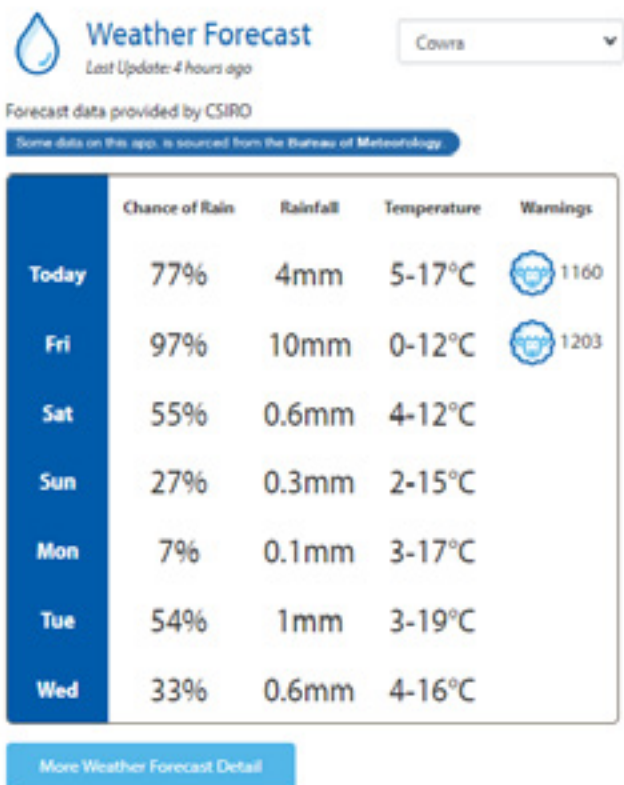
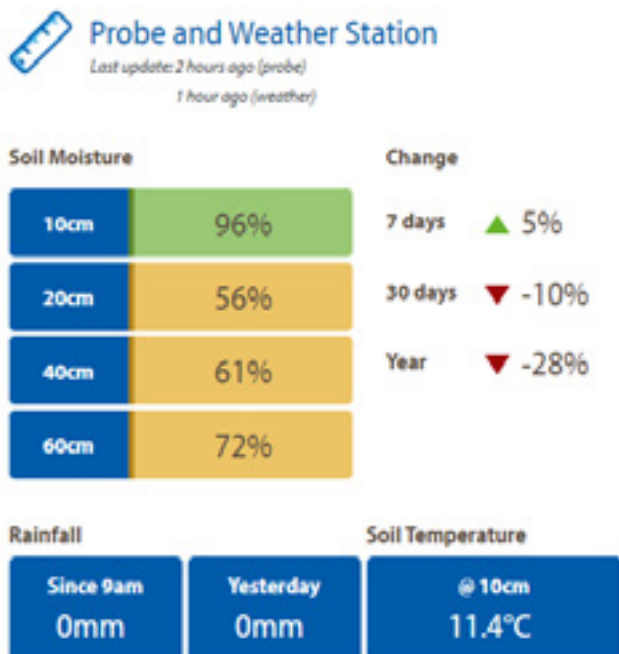
"If your assessment was good you don't need to make any changes to your enterprise, all you are going to do is react to the changing pasture conditions over summer and make decisions about when you are going to get stock off...in a position where you have flexibility," he said.

"I think it is highly likely you will be feeding stock at the end of summer and into autumn, but at the end of the day that isn't unusual and if you have to feed stock for two-three months it is a vastly different situation than having to do it for six months.

"And for those that ended up 50/50 well all you can do is keep assessing it on a weekly basis until you decide what your position is - but please be realistic and honest with your assessment... sometimes it is of great value to talk it through with someone you respect and someone you trust."

Mr Graham's last piece of advice for producers was to remember that every dry event is different.

"The plan you use in 2007 or 2019 mightn't be the plan you should use in 2023 - remembering that in 2019 stock prices were through the roof, so we could make destocking decisions and money we got was substantial, that's not the case in 2023," he said.



A screenshot of the Farming Forecaster app



# BOM remains at El Niño Alert

The Bureau of Meteorology remains at El Niño Alert in the latest Climate Driver Update and continues to forecast warmer and drier conditions for the coming months.

The latest long-range forecast for September to November shows rainfall is likely to very likely (60% to greater than 80% chance) to be below average for much of the eastern half of Australia and southern Western Australia.

Higher than usual maximum temperatures are very likely (greater than 80% chance) for almost all of Australia.

Bureau of Meteorology Senior Climatologist Catherine Ganter said the atmospheric changes we would expect to see during El Niño had so far not occurred.

“Atmospheric indicators of El Niño include wind, cloud and broad-scale pressure patterns across the Pacific Ocean,” Ms Ganter said.

“While the past fortnight (first two weeks of August) has seen a decrease in Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values to El Niño-like values, this strong swing has been due to more localised higher than average pressure in Darwin, rather than a broader El Niño signal.”

“Overall, the atmospheric indicators suggest the Pacific Ocean and atmosphere are not yet consistently reinforcing each other as occurs during El Niño events.”

The status of the El Niño– Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Outlook is determined using set Criteria and expert analysis by climatologists at the Bureau.

“There is no single definitive index or measure for the ENSO,” Ms Ganter said.

“It is a complex phenomenon that describes changes in the Pacific Ocean and the atmosphere above it.”

The US, Japan and Australia each have slightly different metrics for monitoring and declaring ENSO events.

The Bureau issued an El Niño Watch on 14 March 2023, and the ENSO Outlook moved to El Niño Alert on 6 June this year.

When El Niño Alert criteria have been met in the past, an El Niño event has developed around 70 per cent of the time.

Each El Niño event is different and its impact can vary.

During El Niño, the chance of drier conditions increases for eastern Australia during winter and spring and it is usually warmer for the southern two-thirds of Australia.

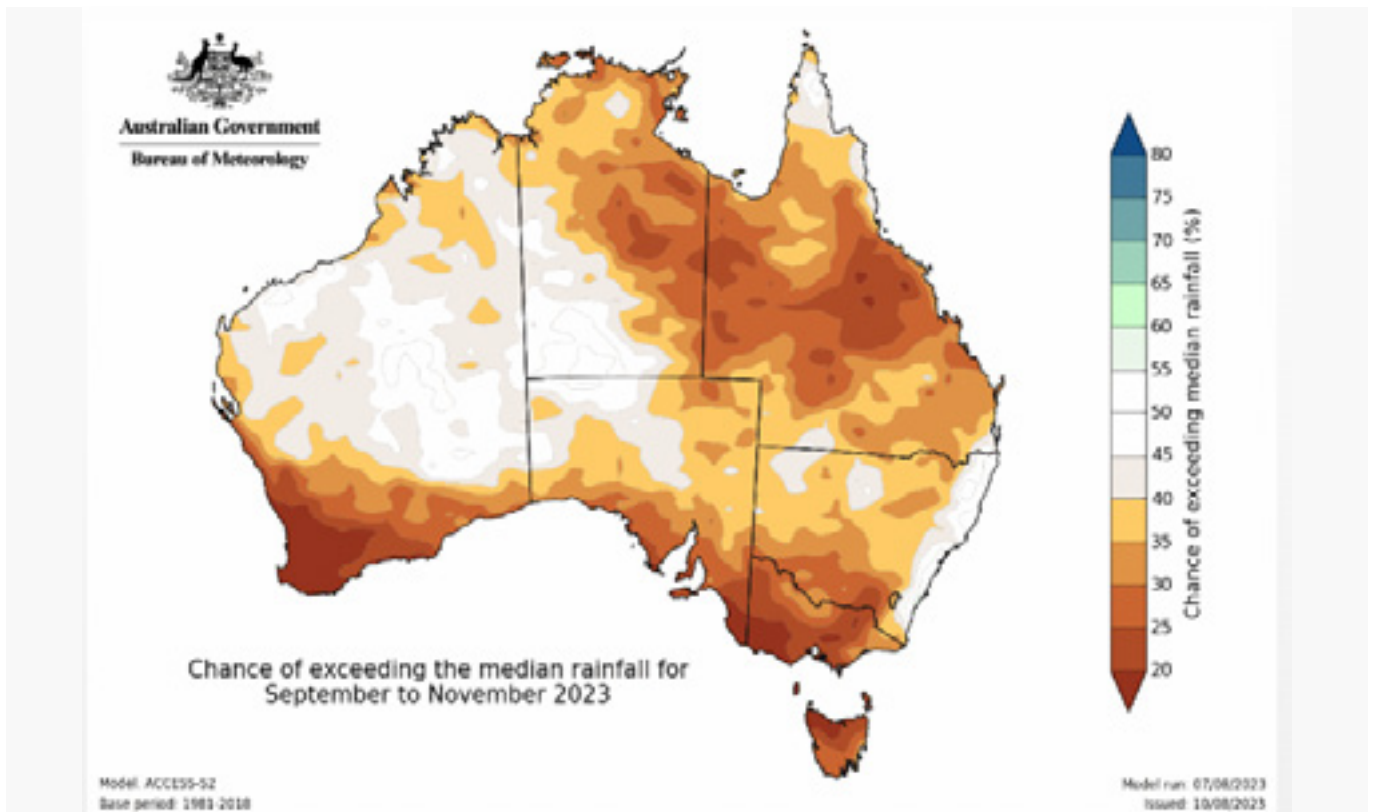
In summer, El Niño increases the likelihood of reduced rainfall in northern Australia. El Niño summers also tend to have warmer days across northern and south-eastern Australia, as well as parts of the south-west.

El Niño events increase the risk of extreme temperatures, like heatwaves and hotter days.

Ms Ganter said global sea surface temperatures were the highest on record (since 1900) for their respective months during April to July 2023.

“We haven’t seen an El Niño develop with ocean temperatures broadly this warm. Some of the things that we’ve understood about how they operate in the past, may not operate that way in the future,” she said.

“We are keeping a really close eye on this and are regularly monitoring conditions in the tropical Pacific Ocean.”



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# States' farmers flag need for more sheep and goat EID funding

*Courtesy of Terry Sim, Sheep Central*

State farming organisations have flagged they will need more government funding to implement the proposed mandatory national sheep and goat electronic identification system.

However, an Agriculture Ministers' meeting in Perth in July — that followed an SFO meeting in Adelaide — has not yet yielded a further commitment nor indicated whether the Federal Government will match already announced State Government EID funding in some states.

Minister for Agriculture Murray Watt and the state agriculture ministers released the National Agricultural Traceability Strategy 2023-2033 to guide a nationally coordinated approach to enhancing traceability for biosecurity, trade, and food safety outcomes.

And Mr Watt's subsequent communique said the ministers noted that effective traceability is a shared responsibility.

The Adelaide meeting was organised by NSW Farmers with the support of Livestock SA, and included representatives from the Victorian Farmers Federation, AgForce Queensland, Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, WA Farmers and the Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA to discuss reforms to sheep and goat traceability.

A joint SFO statement said each state was working within different frameworks and had varying levels of support from government, prompting the Adelaide meeting.

It was jointly agreed that to achieve a harmonised approach that:

- State and federal governments need to invest increased funding to financially assist producers to transition to individual electronic identification to meet state government implementation requirements. Education for producers should be included in this funding.
- Continued efforts by industry and governments (would be required) to reduce producer costs associated with electronic identification infrastructure and devices.
- (There was a) need for the National Livestock Identification System database to have the required capability and capacity to handle increased data prior to states commencing mandatory electronic identification, and this includes to ensure that the user interface is accessible and usable by producers.
- Support Goat Industry Council of Australia (GICA) recommendations for traceability.

NSW Farmers President Xavier Martin said there was an obvious need for state farm organisations to work together to achieve the best outcomes for the industry.

"With such a big reform coming through the mandatory implementation of EID traceability for sheep and goats, we need state farm organisations talking and working together to secure the best possible outcomes for their members," he said.

"Each state and territory is at a different place when it comes to EID use and the transition to it being the sole traceability system for sheep and goats, so we came together to see where the common ground was and to collectively take forward the needs of producers from a grassroots level to our national advocacy bodies and governments, both state and federal.

"Since the mandate was announced, we have seen significant increases in costs of production for sheep and goat producers and it is more important than ever that both producers and governments know what it means for their bottom line, and how these mandated changes will impact their operations," Mr Martin said.

The SFOs said the implementation date agreed by Australia's Agriculture Ministers of January 1, 2025 was fast approaching, and farmers had been telling their state representative bodies they wanted to see a national system that worked for all participants.

Livestock SA president Joe Keynes said despite first stage funding of \$9.3m from the SA Government, more funding was expected post-2025.

"We would like the Federal Government to match that."

He said SA did not yet know what its share of any Federal Government EID funding would be and he was not aware of any commitment from the Federal Government to match state funding. He said the Adelaide meeting did not calculate what the states collectively believe they will need to implement mandatory EID.

WAFarmers Livestock Council president Geoff Pearson said the issue of matching federal EID funding was raised with Mr Watt in Perth yesterday.

"We've got some state funding (\$3.4m), but we don't know about the national funding.

"We as producers have got to work what's going to be subsidised and what's not and plan for that."

But he believed the Federal Government needed to be clear about its funding commitment to allow states and their farmers to plan.

"That's the golden question at the moment."

NFF is also waiting for 'appropriate transition packages'

The National Farmers Federation acknowledged the announcement for a national approach for traceability to benefit a cross section of issues the industry faces in biosecurity, trade and food safety.

NFF vice president David Jochinke said more than ever, traceability systems are an integral scaffold holding up our market access, as well as helping us prevent and act on biosecurity incursions.

"As biosecurity risks and demands for sustainability information continue to grow, traceability is key to making sure Australian grown produce remains safe and competitive.

"However, when traceability initiatives are progressed, appropriate transition packages for each commodity must be provided and we wait to see the detail of this," he said.



## What's happening on a national tag procurement system?

*Courtesy of Terry Sim, Sheep Central*

Sheep Producers Australia chief executive officer Bonnie Skinner gave a national tag tender/ procurement update to the NSW Sheep and Goat Traceability Reference Group in late February and in March told Sheep Central that SPA had sought support from the Federal Government to develop and implement a suitable industry-led initiative to support national tag procurement for producers.

However, four months later, SPA said the independent consultation process with members and stakeholders is about to commence.

"Sheep Producers Australia has sought independent advice regarding a national tag procurement model and will be undertaking consultation with our members and a range of stakeholders.

"We are still awaiting the outcomes of that project," Ms Skinner said.

The objective of the national procurement project is to evaluate sustainable models that would ensure that all sheep producers have access to equitably priced tags from multiple suppliers across Australia, as part of the mandatory national implementation of EID.

SPA said phase one of the project was received in late February 2023; however, SPA has not been prepared to disclose what independent advice it has received.

Sheep Producers Australia has initiated further work as phase two of the project, that will include extensive stakeholder consultation with SPA members and key stakeholders. A completion date for the project has not been confirmed.

Sheep Producers Australia's Federal Budget submission asked for funding for the project, but it is currently funded solely by the peak organisation.

Delayed completion of a national electronic sheep and goat ear tag procurement project is holding up the finalisation of tag prices for New South Wales producers, according to NSW Farmers Sheepmeat Committee chair vice-chair Floyd Legge.

Mr Legge said NSW Farmers is not happy with the current situation with Sheep Producers Australia announcing in February this year that it would have a report from a national procurement project finalised, but not releasing any findings.

"I'm pretty sure we were supposed to see the outcome of that initial in April or May, and we haven't seen anything from them at all.

"We're not happy with the fact that Sheep Producers Australia put out a consultation period to get the first round of information done and it is now far beyond the deadline that they said they would have their initial report to us," he said.

"In my view, they are actually holding up the process of getting somewhere with tags simply because government has said it wanted the industry to take the lead on this.

"Sheep Producers has come forward to say we will do the investigation so therefore government has said we're not going to step until industry has decided that they can't do it," Mr Legge said.

Mr Legge said the industry needed to see the conclusions of the SPA project.

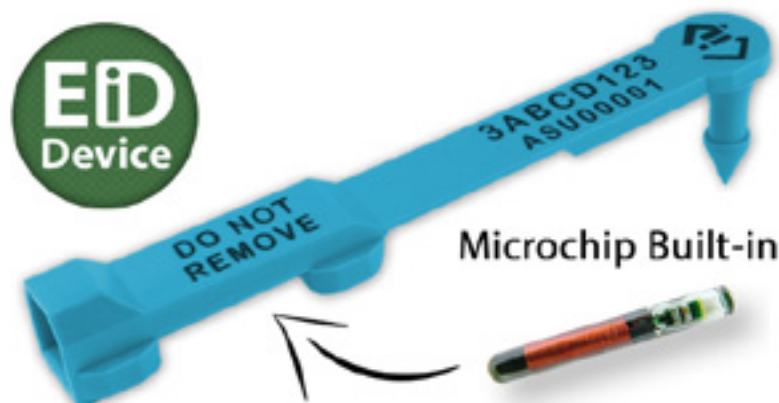
"And if the conclusions are that they can't do it, well they need to be honest and let us know that they can't do it to allow somebody else to hop in the space, because time is ticking; it is less than 18 months from the national industry rollout of 1 January 2025.

"Tag price, because it is the recurring cost that producers have to wear annually, is the number one issue that producers talk about."

The NSW Government last month announced a \$38 million EID package with equipment rebates for producers, processors and saleyards, but nothing for ear tags.

NSW Farmers Sheepmeat Committee chair Jenny Bradley then called on the NSW and Australian Governments to initiate a national tag tender to support the reduction of NLIS EID device costs.

NSW Farmers policy seeks EID tags for sheep costing no more than \$1 per tag which is supported in Queensland and South Australia, and Western Australia already has a short-term tag discount (75 cents) scheme in place that has limited producers' costs to about \$1-\$1.50 a tag, depending on the supplier.



# Three ways eID helps producers harness the power of data

### *Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia*

Since it was introduced nearly 20 years ago, electronic identification (eID) has delivered a clear return on investment for producers who tap into the productivity-boosting data it generates.

MLA investments in eID research provide support for producers to collect and use information about flock health, biosecurity and reproductive performance.

Now, with the 2025 mandate for sheep and goat producers to implement eID on the horizon, MLA is funding projects to fast-track resources for producers to make the switch.

### Collecting lifetime flock data

Developing a flock breeding and health plan relies on an understanding of business goals and flock performance – which in turn, requires thorough data.

Producers can use eID to select ewes and rams for optimised reproduction and lamb survival.

The Genetics of reproduction and lamb survival Producer Demonstration Site (PDS) project focuses on collecting individual genetic information on performance and breeding so producers can confidently select ewes and rams to match their production needs.

To identify and retain ewes with proven reproductive performance, the Pregnancy scanning in extensive sheep flocks PDS project shows how eID can track data on:

- foetal number
- foetal age
- wet and dry numbers
- lamb survival
- net reproduction rate.

After joining, monitor pregnant ewes for adequate nutrition, water and overall health, with a focus on identifying and managing any in poor condition.

The Using eID to improve ewe performance PDS has shown that using eID to collect information on weight, nutrition and other health factors gives producers improved confidence around ewe management decisions.

Producers can use eID to manage the health of an entire flock, for example by using the data collected to diagnose health issues.

The Managing trace element deficiencies in sheep PDS project is exploring appropriate practices to collect and identify trace

element deficiencies – including blood tests, liver samples and biopsies for copper. Collecting flock data can also highlight the effect of certain grasses on mineral status, as a tool to optimise pasture management.

### Using data to boost your business

It's one thing to collect all this data, but the next step is understanding how it can benefit your business. How you use it will depend on your business needs, so seek advice and conduct your own research to maximise your data's potential.

Many MLA projects aim to provide producers with the skills to interpret their data, develop value propositions, and make good decisions for profitability, productivity and sustainability.

These projects explore a range of eID benefits, such as:

- enhancements in traceability, biosecurity and risk management through scanning and movement tracking
- individualised data on health, reproduction and performance
- time and labour savings
- increased information flow along the supply chain
- ability to compile multiple forms of data in one place
- ability to benchmark performance and health using a central database
- collection of information to enhance genetic improvement.

Researchers are also looking at other technologies, such as remote objective weight or walk-over-weighing, as data produced by these technologies can be used hand-in-hand with eID.

Integrating data through the supply chain

The incoming 2025 eID mandate for sheep and goats comes from a need to heighten biosecurity, traceability, best practice and animal health in the wake of worldwide disease incursions.

Electronic tags will be vital to trace livestock movements to identify contact points in the event of a biosecurity incursion.

Sharing information generated by eID can help the industry improve biosecurity, together.

The eID enabled – stimulating the information supply chain project supported the creation of extension products and data-sharing systems. This empowered value chain participants with skills, knowledge and tools to use eID to generate improvements in productivity and business performance.







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# Australia's sheep flock to reach largest size in over 15 years

## Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia

The Australian sheepmeat industry is set for another bumper year in 2023 as the national sheep flock grows to its highest level since 2007 at 78.75m head, according to the latest Sheep Industry Projections update from Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

Driving this increase are optimal breeding conditions nationwide, a genetically superior flock, improved lambing percentages and medium-term industry confidence at the farm gate level.

Growth is forecast across all states, with larger improvements in flock numbers expected from South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland and Tasmania. The key sheep producing states of New South Wales and Victoria are also forecast to lift numbers, although not as significantly as other states.

In 2024 the national flock's growth is projected to moderate and plateau, reaching 79.5 million head, a rise of 1%, or 750,000 head year-on-year. While in 2025, the national flock is estimated to fall to 2023 levels, although it will remain above the 10-year average.

According to Senior Market Information Analyst at MLA, Ripley Atkinson, the growth of the national flock in 2023 will lead to increased slaughter numbers and production.

"Lamb slaughter is forecast to reach 22.6m in 2023 as a result of large numbers of breeding ewes and strong marking rates. This is a rise of 595,000 head or 2.7% year-on-year.

"2022's slaughter performance showed that small stock processors had a greater ability to increase their throughput in line with higher supply, a trend MLA expects will continue in 2023."

"Looking further ahead to 2024, we forecast it to be a record year for lamb slaughter, reaching 23.2m head. This would be a rise of 3%, or 560,000 year-on-year and higher by 1.1m head or 5% on the 10-year average," said Mr Atkinson.

Carcase weights are also forecast to increase in 2023. This is primarily due to structural genetic investment and productive improvement in the national flock over the past two years.

In 2023, lamb carcase weights are forecast to remain high at 25.1kg. This would be 11%, or 2.5kg/head, above the 10-year average. This is despite weather forecasts suggesting drier conditions will occur in the second half of 2023.

The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has forecast that the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) will enter a positive phase in 2023. A positive IOD results in less rain across southern Australia, where most of Australia's sheep population is located.

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Indicator	Current price* ¢/kg cwt	10-year average ¢/kg cwt	Lower limit ¢/kg cwt	Average ¢/kg cwt	Upper limit ¢/kg cwt
National Trade Lamb	529.3	672.0	503.0	553.3	567.6
National Heavy Lamb	530.3	659.0	522.5	568.9	603.2

As the second largest sheepmeat exporter in the world, New Zealand plays an important role in the global lamb and mutton market. However, according to Mr Atkinson, a decline in the New Zealand sheep flock size presents an opportunity for the Australian sheepmeat industry.

“New Zealand, like Australia, has good market access, quality assurance schemes and a strong reputation internationally meaning that they are an international competitor to Australian lamb and mutton.

“However, new opportunities may be made available to Australian producers and exporters as New Zealand flock size decreases, wool and lamb production become less profitable compared to dairy production, and land availability decreases.”

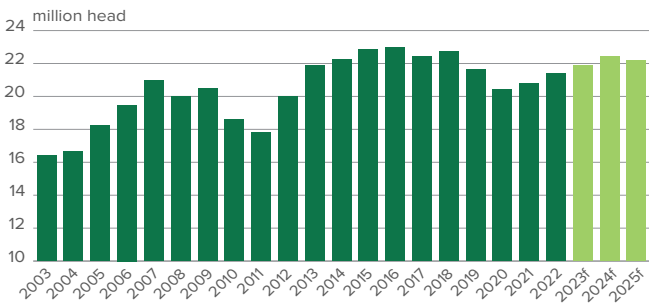
“In recent years, successive Australian Governments have made considerable strides in gaining European market access, with talks ongoing for an Australia (AU)-European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and the AU-UK FTA signed in December 2021.

“As New Zealand sheepmeat exports have increasingly shifted away from Europe, and towards China, improved opportunities for Australian sheepmeat in European markets may continue,” said Mr Atkinson.

Overall, Australia’s sheep industry is in an exciting position of continued growth and development, with local production and the flock forecast set to rise, while global demand for high quality sheepmeat in established and emerging markets continues.

The industry’s ability to continue to deliver high quality protein and be a world-leading producer will define 2023 as a positive and optimistic year.

Figure 4: National lamb slaughter



Source: ABS, MLA forecasts

## September forecasts

In a further expansion of price forecasts by six industry analysts, MLA has included a three-month price forecast to 30 September for both the National Trade Lamb Indicator

and National Heavy Lamb Indicator in its latest Sheep projections.

This is to reflect both a domestic lamb article price forecast and an export article-based forecast.

Based on current prices, analysts are forecasting an improvement in prices for both indicators between now and the end of September.

For the National Trade Lamb Indicator, analysts are forecasting the price to lift by 4.5% or 24¢ to reach 553¢/kg carcass weight (cwt) by 30 September (based on the current price of 529¢ as of July).

For the National Heavy Lamb Indicator, analysts are forecasting a price of 569¢ by 30 September. This would be an improvement of 7.4% or 39¢/kg cwt on its current price (as of July) at 530¢.

If these prices eventuate, both indicators would remain below 10-year averages.

## December forecasts

The same six industry analysts mentioned above are also forecasting improvements across the National Trade Lamb Indicator (NTLI) and National Heavy Lamb Indicator (NHLI) out to the end of 2023.

This is despite the fact a large 2023 lamb drop is expected, delivering higher supply.

The NTLI is forecast to rise by 4.4% or 22.5¢ to 537¢/kg cwt by 31 December. Meanwhile, the NHLI is expected to see an improvement of 2.2% or 12¢/kg cwt, reaching 553¢/kg cwt.

The spread (upper limit minus lower limit) of both indicators is 97¢, tighter spreads suggest more surety in market forecasts, indicating analysts are expecting less volatility in prices between now and the end of 2023.

Although, this average spread is lower than the 108¢/kg cwt for the NTLI forecast included within the July 2022 Sheep projections.

If the NTLI reaches 537¢ by the end of 2023, this price would be 20% or 136¢ below the 10-year weekly average of 673¢/kg cwt.

If the NHLI reached its forecast price of 553¢ by the end of this year, this would be 16% or 106¢/kg cwt below the 10-year weekly average of 659¢/kg cwt.

Despite analysts predicting an improvement in prices, both indicators could come in below long-term averages if their forecasts eventuate.

Higher supply of lambs as the flock reaches its highest level since 2007 this year are driving lower price forecasts, despite improvements in slaughter rates.



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# More dollars from ewe lambs with joining tool

*Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia*

Joining ewe lambs can increase profitability by up to \$57 per ewe lamb joined – and a new tool has just become available to help producers make informed decisions to maximise gains from the practice.

Developed by Murdoch University, Farming Systems Analysis Service and neXtgen Agri with funding from MLA, the tool provides guidance on the cost-effectiveness of joining ewe lambs as well as management strategies to maximise profitability from ewe lambs joined.

Project lead and Murdoch University's Associate Professor of Animal Science, Andrew Thompson, said the tool enables producers to put a dollar value on joining ewe lambs within their flock.

"Joining ewe lambs is not something for everyone – current adoption levels are around 5 per cent in Merino and 30 per cent in maternal flocks. Whether it's actually cost-effective to do will vary from farm to farm and season to season," Andrew said.

"It does give you more lambs to sell, but you've got to keep an eye on costs."

## Double the decision support

The tool has three separate functions to support decision making around joining ewe lambs at each step of the journey – all starting with whether a producer should join ewe lambs in the first place.

- Helps producers decide if they should join ewe lambs: Producers can enter details such as number of lambs weaned from their adult and hogget ewes and commodity prices, and the tool will advise if ewe lamb joining is something they should consider.
- Helps producers who have been joining for a while boost their results: Producers can enter information and current targets around seven key factors identified to influence the performance of ewe lambs, such as the liveweight and age of the animal when mated. The tool then provides the producer with a dollar figure estimate of how much extra they could make by shifting their management of specific factors

towards what the tool has modelled as the optimum for their specific operating environment.

- Helps inform tactical decision making and enables producers to optimise their management of ewe lambs based on the conditions of that specific season.

## Keeping it specific

With a complex range of factors affecting ewe lamb performance when joined, the tool uses a unique method to provide the specific, tailored advice producers need to drive productivity gains.

"What's so innovative about this tool is that we have integrated whole farm economic modelling with machine learning," Andrew said.

"This means we can provide advice that's much more than generic advice – it's actually specific to the scenario of the individual producer using the tool."

According to co-founder and Director of neXtgen Agri, Mark Ferguson, the tool's use of machine learning will allow it to provide cost-benefit analysis and optimum management strategies for more than 500 million possible scenarios.

"The beauty of machine learning is that we can enter 2500 farm system scenarios into the tool and then it trains the algorithm to fill in the gaps between the scenarios – so it can model something very similar to your scenario in just a fraction of a second," Mark said.

"It allows you to weigh up all the 'what ifs' with more precision than just doing a few numbers on the back of an envelope."

## Time to talk

Before making the decision to join their ewe lambs, neXtgen Agri's Mark Ferguson recommends producers make sure of the tools and support already available to maximise the success of their breeding season.

"Even if it looks profitable on paper to do, there's a few things you need to do well when joining ewe lambs. I encourage producers to talk to a consultant, join the Towards 90 (T90) Program or talk to someone who's already joining their ewe lambs to learn a few tricks," he said.

You can access the tool here: <https://tools.mla.com.au/ewe-lamb-decision-support-tool/>

Watch videos on how to use the tool here: <https://www.mla.com.au/extension-training-and-tools/tools-calculators/joining-ewe-lamb-tool/>

## Joining Ewe Lambs decision support tool (DST)

DST Home Management Focus Strategic Management

### Management focus input

#### Farm scenario

Growing season length

Number of ewe lambs weaned

Date of joining of adult ewes

Breed

Genetic potential for reproduction

Wool price

Lamb price

Supplement price

Supplement quality

#### Flock structure

Sale age of young ewes

Sale age of old ewes years

#### Livestock management

Adult weaning percentage

2-tooth ewes weaning percentage

# Are you docking to the right length?

## Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia

Tail docking of lambs is a common practice for producers as it often plays a role in ensuring animal welfare. However, if done incorrectly, it can pose a risk to lamb survival.

Veterinarian Dr Joan Lloyd from Joan Lloyd Consulting Pty Ltd said while tail docking is a longstanding practice to reduce lifetime susceptibility to flystrike in sheep, it can have the opposite effect if the tail is cut too short.

Other potential impacts on health because of a too-short tail include:

- slower rate of healing after docking
- greater susceptibility to infection that increases the risk of arthritis
- increases the risk of rectal and uterine prolapse
- makes animals more susceptible to tail cancer (squamous cell carcinoma).

“When tails are docked to the recommended length, sheep are able to lift them – reducing both dag accumulation and the risk of breech flystrike,” Joan said.

### When to dock

The ideal age for tail docking lambs is 2 to 8 weeks.

“Younger lambs are easier and safer to handle, meaning docking can be done faster and with less stress for both lambs and the operator,” Joan said.

“They also have smaller tail circumference, providing less sensitive tissue which results in a smaller wound.

“If docking is delayed until after eight weeks of age, healing will be slower and the risk of infection will increase.”

Lambs being sold for slaughter prior to high-risk flystrike or dag periods may be exempt from tail docking.

### Best practice

Tail length recommendations were developed from studies conducted by the CSIRO in the 1930s and 1940s and remain relevant today.

“These studies included more than 10,000 Merino sheep across five properties in eastern Australia and gave results that suggested docking tails either medium-long or long gave significantly better protection and healing quality than medium or short tails,” Joan said.

“In fact, leaving the tail undocked provided better protection against breech flystrike than docking to give medium or short tails.”

Best practice for tail docking involves:

- docking at a minimum of three, preferably four, palpable joints – non-mulesed lambs should have their tails docked no shorter than the fourth
- keeping the caudal folds (flaps of skin that attach the underside of the tail to the lamb’s body) intact
- for ewes, ensure the healed tail covers the vulva.

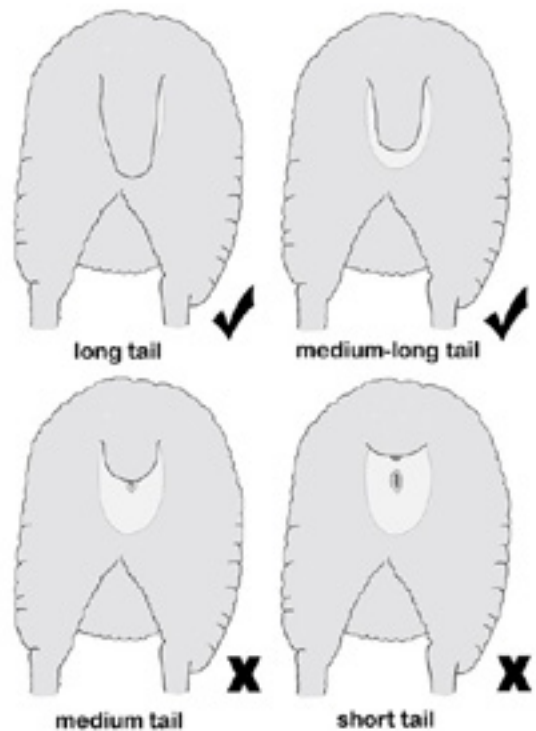
Joan recommends either a gas-heated knife or the Numnuts® device is used. However, tail-docking rings such as those used with the Numnuts® device do not remove the woolly skin on the tip of the tail.

“The lamb-marking knife is not a best practice method for tail docking and using mulesing shears is unacceptable,” Joan said.

“They create a higher risk of bleeding, infection and misshapen deviated tails, so it’s important producers use the right tools to ensure the right results.”

For aftercare following tail docking, Joan advises the following:

- Gently release the lamb onto clean grass so it lands on its feet.
- Return lambs to their mothers as soon as possible – well before dark.
- Check lambs daily (without disturbance which could cause mismothering) for 10 days after docking.
- Yard or catch and restrain any lambs which appear abnormal and treat any complications early.



Best practice tail length when docking lambs' tails.



# Ulandi Park

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# How good is that feed?

*Courtesy of Agriculture Victoria (Adapted from Chapter 3 in the Sheep Drought Feeding Book on the FeedingLivestock website)*

Feeds vary considerably in their nutritional value depending on growing conditions, stage of harvesting and storage conditions.

It's difficult to judge the quality of a feed visually, so it's important to have feeds analysed to get an objective measure of the quality so you can estimate its value and how much you will need.

The main feed components that can be tested are energy, protein, fibre and dry matter.

## Energy

As energy is the main requirement of livestock, knowing the metabolisable energy (ME) values of different feeds is important for two reasons:

Calculation of the amount of feed required to meet production targets is only possible when the energy value of the various feeds that make up a ration is known

Deciding to buy feed should be based on the cost per unit of energy rather than the cost per tonne.

A feed analysis report will report on metabolisable energy (ME), expressed as megajoules per kilogram dry matter (MJ/kgDM), sometimes also written as MJ ME/kgDM.

ME is the amount of energy in the feed that is available to sheep for use.

It involves measurement of energy excreted in faeces, urine and exhaled as methane.

This requires specialised equipment and, in Australia, is not available as a direct measure. Instead, it is calculated based on the digestibility of a feed.

The amount you need to feed will be dependent on how much energy is in the feed. However, if the energy content is too low (and the NDF too high) then the animal may not be able to eat enough.

## Protein

Protein is measured as crude protein as a percentage of dry matter.

Protein contains nitrogen, and this is used to estimate the protein content of feeds.

A portion of the nitrogen in feed is non-protein nitrogen (nitrates, ammonia and urea); crude protein is a measure of both this and the true protein (amino acids).

Crude protein values give a good indication of whether or not a particular feed will satisfy the protein needs of an animal.

Some supplements, such as grain legumes, are high in protein and will be useful if they are cost effective and practical.

Supplements that are likely to be low in protein include cereal hays, straws, low-quality pasture hays and some cereal grains. Protein can range from six to 19 per cent in hay.

Silage can show similar variation, and in the case of cereal grains, protein can vary from five to 16 per cent.

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# ON-FARM

Lupins are very high in protein and are often added to a cereal grain to increase the protein level of the diet.

Forms of non-protein nitrogen such as urea can be used to increase the rate of digestion of high-fibre feeds such as hay and straw, however, caution is needed as products such as urea can be toxic if consumed in large quantities.

In general terms, at least two-thirds of an animal's crude protein intake should be provided as true (natural) protein.

Selection of feeds that will meet animal requirements will be dependent on the percentage of crude protein in the diet.

For example, if feeding as a sole ration, the protein requirement needs to be at least seven per cent protein for maintenance or above 12 per cent for lactation or growth.

## Fibre

Neutral detergent fibre (NDF), as reported via a feed analysis, is a measure of all the fibre (the digestible and indigestible parts) and indicates how bulky the feed is.

It is reported as a percentage of dry matter.

A high NDF will mean lower intake.

Conversely, lower NDF values lead to higher intakes and tend to have higher energy values. Too little fibre can result in acidosis, as the feed is digested too quickly, and the rumen isn't able to function properly.

Low-fibre, high-starch diets (grains) cause the rumen to become acidic.

The fibre levels of most high-starch grains are generally low.

Oats and lupins are both generally higher in fibre and lower in starch.

This is why these grains are generally much safer to feed than the cereal grains.

Oats are the safest and highest-fibre cereal grain with 29 per cent NDF, compared with barley at 14 per cent NDF and wheat at around 11 per cent NDF.

Cereal grains can be feed in large amounts for long periods very safely, but slow introduction is the key.

Beef cattle need about 30 per cent in the diet as optimal but the level is not well known for sheep and is rarely limiting on pasture.

The NDF can be used to estimate how much an animal can eat.

The maximum percentage of a sheep's liveweight that they can eat is 120/NDF.

Therefore, a feed with an NDF of 50 per cent means an animal could eat 2.4 per cent of their liveweight (for a 60 kg animal that is 1.44 kg they can eat per day).

## Dry matter

All measurements of energy and protein are made on a dry matter basis so feeds

of different moisture contents can be compared.

Dry matter is the amount of feed left after all the water in the sample has been removed by oven drying.

It is expressed as a percentage of the original sample.

Silage has a high moisture content and is around 45 per cent dry matter.

This means one tonne of silage has only 450 kg of dry matter and 550 kg of water.

Grain has a much lower moisture content, at about 90 per cent dry matter.

This means one tonne of grain has 900 kg of dry matter and only 100 kg of water.

Knowing the dry matter percentage enables you to work out how much feed to provide to meet the energy requirements of the stock.

*Example: If silage has an energy level of 11 MJ ME/ kg DM, how much silage do you need to feed 10 MJ ME of energy?*

*Silage required:*

$$10 \text{ MJ ME} \div 11 \text{ MJ ME/kgDM} = 0.9 \text{ kgDM}$$

$$0.9 \text{ kgDM} \div 0.45 \text{ (silage 45\% dry matter)}$$

$$= 2 \text{ kg as fed}$$

## Energy and protein contents of common feeds for sheep

(Source: FeedTest laboratory. For current test reports <https://www.feedtest.com.au/index.php/news/31-season-averages-1st-quarter-2018-19> (opens in new window))

Feed Type	Energy (megajoules/kg DM)		Protein (% Crude Protein)	
	Average	Common Range	Average	Common Range
Wheat, Triticale	13	12-15	12	8-23
Barley	13	11-13	11	6-17
Maize	13	10-14	9	5-11
Lupins	10	10-14	30	26-40
Peas	13	10-13	23	18-28
Fava Beans	12	10-13	25	18-28
Oats	11	9-13	9	6-12
Sheep pellets (brands vary)	10	8-10	12	4-21
Lucerne hay	8.5	7-9	20	16-25
Clover hay (early)	8.5	7-9.5	18	15-20
Pasture hay (mid-season)	7	6-7	11	8-16
Cotton hay	7	6-8	8	5-10
Grass hay	6	5-7	8	5-10
Cereal straw	5	4-8	4	3-5

Warning: As seen from the large ranges for each feed types, feeds vary considerably in their nutritional value depending on growing conditions, stage of harvesting and storage conditions. The only way to be sure of the nutritional value of a particular batch of feed is to have it tested for energy, protein and dry matter.

# BRUAN

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# Enhancements for Sheep Genetics in 2023

### *Courtesy of Sheep Genetics*

Sheep Genetics implement annual analysis enhancements to ensure they continue to provide world-leading genetic evaluation services to clients. Sheep Genetics works alongside the Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit (AGBU) who are responsible for the research and development behind the enhancements to the Sheep Genetics evaluations.

In summary the enhancements implemented this year fall under 2 key themes:

- There are more phenotypes and genotypes being used in the genetic evaluation than ever before, which enables new and updated ways for this data to be utilised.
- The software used to develop indexes has undergone a major redevelopment to better model on-farm production systems and account for traits that will become important in breeding objectives in the future.

### **New Single Step Evaluation for Lambing Ease in LAMBPLAN for Terminals**

Lambing ease (LE) is an important welfare and production efficiency trait. As such, lambing ease was introduced as an ASBV in 2007 and incorporated into Terminal indexes as part of the 2022 analysis enhancements.

Currently, LE is a tri-variate analysis, meaning the analysis takes into account lambing ease score, birth weight, and gestation length when calculating ASBVs for lambing ease.

The analysis up until June 2023 does not use genomic information when calculating lambing ease ASBVs.

There are also efficiencies which can be made to this analysis to produce more accurate ASBVs in a timely manner.

Addition of dead at birth (DAB) data in the analysis model for lambing ease

As part of this year's enhancements dead at birth (DAB) information supplied by breeders will be included in the model (along with lambing ease score, birth weight, and gestation length) to calculate lambing ease ASBVs.

Using DABs as a correlated trait in the lambing ease analysis improves the accuracy of the analysis.

Expression of variation in lambing ease in pure-bred flocks is a challenge. In the data supplied by breeders there is more expression of DAB and this information will be used to inform the calculation of LE ASBVs.

Moving Lambing Ease to a Single-Step Genomic model

Lambing ease was one of the only analysis models that did not use genomic information.

As part of the updates to the lambing ease analysis, a single step analysis model will now be used.

Single step evaluations use both trait measurement, pedigree relationships and genomic information.

Updating the lambing ease analysis to a single step model, and therefore the inclusion of genomic information and improved

data filtering, will ensure increased accuracy of lambing ease ASBVs.

As a result more animals will receive a Lambing Ease ASBV.

What these enhancements mean for LE ASBVs:

The new model will result in increased in accuracy of lambing ease ASBVs.

There is a change in the genetic trend and the scale of the ASBVs. It will be important to look at the updated percentile bands from the analysis.

More animals will receive lambing ease ASBVs due to improved data filtering procedures.

Who is impacted?

Updating lambing ease to a single step model will mean more accurate ASBVs, as well as more animals receiving ASBVs for lambing ease.

There will be changes to the ASBVs and percentile ranking for Lambing Ease ASBVs.

### **Commercial measures of eating quality on Sheep Genetics animals**

Sheep Genetics is working with breeders who are consigning SG animals to abattoirs, collecting commercial measures of eating quality. This applies to those who are processing animals that are in an SG evaluation and getting individual animal feedback for intra-muscular fat (from a probe or other device) and yield data (via DEXA). The intention is to investigate the relationship between these commercial measurements and the research measurements routinely taken in the MLA Resource Flock, to determine if commercial measures can be included in the genetic evaluation. If you have a consignment of animals that meets these requirements and are interested in being involved, please contact SG before the animals are consigned to ensure that all the necessary information is collected.

The below requirements are for breeders who are wanting to collect commercial carcass measurements;

- Animals must have a Sheep Genetics ID and are in the Sheep Genetics evaluation (either excess animals from the stud or have pedigree information)
- A pre-slaughter weight (4 hours fasted) on-farm prior to slaughter
- Ideally pre-slaughter weight is to be recorded as soon as possible to the animals going onto the truck to slaughter, however, pre-slaughter measurements can be taken up to 7 days prior to slaughter
- Date of pre-slaughter measurements
- Management group of animals
- Kill date and consignment number
- Where possible, we recommend taking the following on farm pre-slaughter measurements also
- Condition score
- Fat and Muscle scan data

# Valley Vista



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## Poll Dorsets Sponsor ICMJ

The Australian Poll Dorset Association was a proud sponsor of the the Australian ICMJ event in Wagga Wagga, NSW, from 4-8 July 2023.

The objective of ICMJ is to provide an opportunity for students to learn and to build the pool of intelligent young meat industry representatives, fired with enthusiasm who will give the Australian meat industry the expertise and drive to compete in the meat quality world of the future.

The Poll Dorset is a crucial part of this “meat quality world of the future” and the biggest lamb breed sponsor of ICMJ.

### All red meat industry participants can add value through ICMJ

*Courtesy of Hugh Dawson, Beef Central*

My predisposition is to jump at anything that sounds like an opportunity, but when I first heard of ‘meat judging’ I had to stop and think...

Like most producers, my experience was isolated to production systems and my knowledge of the post-farm-gate supply chain was sufficiently limited to this point.

I’ve been fortunate to have participated in a range of industry conferences and workshops, but the Intercollegiate Meat Judging Association and its annual conference and competition offers the most comprehensive insight into the meat industry supply chain from on-farm conception to the point of sale and consumption.

Competing in this conference last year completely changed my perspective of the industry and made me question the potential value producers might be forfeiting along the supply chain.

I returned to ICMJ this year as a co-coach of the Marcus Oldham College team and visited abattoirs as part of our training. From as young as I can remember, I’ve listened to livestock producers talk about getting animals ‘fat’ for sale, but I couldn’t help but feel for the lamb producer as we watched thick layers of external fat being separated from primals from a platform above the boning room.

I thought of conversations where farmers would remark despondently about being discounted for ‘yield’ despite their stock being sent to market in ‘top condition’, and I recalled empathising with them, though I didn’t fully understand what they were talking about at the time.

Now as a final-year agribusiness student, I looked at the external fat being sorted into trim containers and could only see ‘kg/haDM’ that could have been utilised by another beast to grow muscle, ultimately to achieve a higher price per kg/yield. This made me question how well-aligned the producer’s notion of ‘top condition’ is to the animal needed by processors to meet quality expectations of consumers, who (as was mentioned several times in this year’s ICMJ conference) are the people who deliver every dollar back to our supply chain.

In the scheme of things, I am only starting out in my career in the red meat industry, so I could be a little off the mark. But while the average age of a farmer remains above 65 and there is a gaping hole in the age demographic of people looking to enter agriculture; our next crop of industry participants could



**ICMJ**  
AUSTRALIAN INTERCOLLEGIATE  
MEAT JUDGING ASSOCIATION

be going in blind to livestock production without first-hand exposure to the complete supply chain, to the economic detriment of our meat and livestock industry.

So from starting as an outside sceptic, I now hold the belief ICMJ should be a prerequisite for everyone in our supply chain — if only possible — from farmer to end consumer.

You won’t walk away with all the answers and the challenges we face as a sector are addressed in full transparency. Yet ICMJ is a genuinely progressive and engaging program, actively empowering future industry leaders by facilitating countless opportunities for delegates to learn, network and grow.

I have no doubt it will be ICMJ alumni who are responsible — as they are currently — for sustained growth in agricultural prosperity long into the future of meat production in Australia.

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# Springwaters takes supreme at NSW Dorset Championships

*Courtesy of Rebecca Nadge, The Land*

Organisers were “ecstatic” with the number of entries at the NSW Dorset Championships in Cowra, which saw 17 studs compete over two days.

Judge Garry Armstrong, of Armdale Park, Marrar, said the quality across the competition was excellent.

In the junior rams, Andbo Poll Dorset stud, Crookwell, was awarded champion with Abelene Park, Woolomin, winning reserve.

Abelene went on to with both champion and reserve intermediate ram, while Springwaters Poll Dorset stud, Boorowa, also had a double in the senior rams.

The senior champion ram, Springwaters 85, won grand champion before going on to win supreme exhibit. Springwaters 85 also won the overall performance ram.

Stud principal Dane Rowley said the ram was an April-born twin ram by the homebred Goldie SW200627, which sold for \$20,000 to Redline stud, West Wyalong, in 2021.

“He’s pretty much been a bit of a standout ram in what’s been a really good of a contemporary of rams,” he said.

“He’s come from a line where he’s the best every time there’s been a son before him, it’s a really strong bloodline of ours.”

It was the ram’s first show and he was now headed to the Australian Sheep and Wool Show at Bendigo in July, he said.

Mr Rowley said he was still deciding whether the ram would be retained or sold in the on-property sale later in the year and used instead for artificial insemination.

“We really concentrate on a very strong program with our breeding and we’re very selective when we bring blood in,” he said.

“It’s all consistency and even type, just a moderate-framed sheep with as much thickness and meat and bone and as early maturing as we can.”

In the ewes, Rene Poll Dorset Stud was awarded champion ewe ahead of Finley High School in reserve.

Rene stud principal Scott Mitchell said they brought five rams and five ewes and each animal won a ribbon.

Mr Mitchell said it was the first time in several years that the stud had gone home with a champion sash.

He thought the champion ewe was a standout during show preparations, he said.

“I ran her in eight days ago and shored her for the show,” he said.

“She blew me away when I got the wool off her, I thought ‘geeze, we’ve got something here’.”



*Our success is measured by our clients' success*

# ANNUAL on property RAM SALE

## 1pm at Armdale, Marrar

## Friday 22nd September 2023

## 100 Poll Dorset rams – Performance recorded

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## AROUND THE SHOWS

The ewe was by a sire the stud bred in 2019 but did not get to compete due to COVID disrupting the 2020 show season.

“He was one of our better rams,” Mr Mitchell said.

“We didn’t get to show him but it was good for us because we got to keep our better rams and they’ve bred really well for us.”

The sire had a good showing bloodline and was descended from a ram the stud purchased from Tasmania for \$10,000 in 2015.

“It’s very pleasing to see - you started way back then and thought you saw something in a ram that might do something for your stud,” he said.

“He has bred very well for us, we’re going to try and keep that line going.”

Hillden Poll Dorsets, Bannister, also had a good day at the office, winning the most successful exhibitor, the highest strike rate, and the NSW mixed pair of the year.

Finley High School was recognised as the most successful school exhibitor.

The highest placed ewe lamb for the region went to Ridgehaven, Cudal, while Valley Vista Poll Dorsets, Coolac, was awarded the highest placed ram lamb for the region.

Narlisa Cooper, of Ashcharmoo Poll Dorsets, Marulan, was recognised as the member of the year.



Georja Seaman, Andbo Poll Dorset Stud, Crookwell, with the champion junior ram.



Scott Mitchell, Rene Poll Dorsets, Culcairn, with the champion ewe.



Dane Rowley, Springwaters Poll Dorsets, Boorowa, Josh Liebich, Bromar Engineering, and judge Garry Armstrong, Armdale Park, Marrar, with the supreme exhibit



Brett and Marshall Douglas, Abelene Park, Woolomin, with the judge Garry Armstrong. Abelene Park won champion and reserve in the intermediate rams.

# Tattykeel takes out NSW Sheep Show for 10th year running

*Courtesy of Rebecca Nadge, The Land*

Tattykeel has been crowned the supreme sheep exhibit for the 10th consecutive year at the NSW State Sheep Show at Dubbo.

The Black Springs stud took out a string of broad ribbons in the Poll Dorset breed classes before also winning the overall group, ram and ewe classes.

It was the stud's Poll Dorset ewe, Tattykeel 220064, that was recognised with the top honour, with the judges from all the breed classes inspecting the exhibits.

Tattykeel stud principal James Gilmore said the champion had won the woolly ewe class at the Sydney Royal Show and was an embryo transfer lamb by the stud's renowned Tattykeel Masterclass 200060.

Masterclass won supreme exhibit at both Sydney Royal and the State Sheep Show at Dubbo in 2021.

Masterclass's uncle, Tattykeel Masterstroke, was the supreme exhibit in Dubbo in 2018.

"In the winning group she had two full ET sisters - our pair of ewes were full ET sisters and full ET sisters to the supreme ewe," Mr Gilmore said.

"It's not very often you'll get three sheep in the interbreed that's all the same breeding."

He said the stud was extremely proud to have won the competition for the 10th year.

Mr Gilmore said more than 600 head were entered in the event, making it the biggest sheep show in the state and therefore a prestigious title to win.

"It might not have all your Dorset exhibitors but the interbreed part, you're still taking on 600 head of sheep," he said.

"We do hold Dubbo in high esteem - it isn't easy to continually win there."

He said the stud's success was a real family and team achievement.

"At the start of that winning streak I wasn't even married - now I've got kids in the photo as well. It's been quite a journey," he said.

The stud's ram, Tattykeel 220018, won the supreme exhibit in the Poll Dorset breed section.

Mr Gilmore said they were not surprised to see the ewe surpass the ram in the interbreed final.

"It's pretty hard to find anything wrong with the ewe - she's almost faultless in most areas," he said.

"We had an inkling that when it went to a big panel of judges you would get a more even outcome."

Tattykeel 220018 had won in the pairs section at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, he said.

He was sired by Tattykeel 200034, which was crowned grand champion Poll Dorset ram at the Cowra Dorset Fair in 2021.

The ram weighed about 145kg with his lamb's teeth, Mr Gilmore said.

Mr Gilmore said the ram's great grand sire was Tattykeel 8097, which the stud reintroduced about three years ago for some older genetics.

"He was an incredibly well-bred ram and 20-30 years ago was the backbone of all our females on our female lines so we decided to throw him back into the mix and see what he could do," he said.

Judge Floyd Legge, Ridgehaven Poll Dorsets, Cudal, said there was good quality presented in the breed class across the exhibits from Tattykeel, Cranbrook Poll Dorset stud, Canowindra, and Kraywood, Cudal.

He described the supreme Poll Dorset exhibit as a "complete ram."

"The ram was smooth through the head, shoulders, and he had a very good shoulder shape," he said.

"He had good body structure, huge loin, very well rounded hindquarter and structurally correct standing up."

Mr Legge said the ewe was also a very good representation of the breed with good wool quality.

"She was quite feminine, still smooth through the shoulders, and full of meat," he said.



*Tattykeel's James, Melinda and Ross Gilmore with Hudson, 7, and Wesley, 5, accept the supreme exhibit award from chief sheep steward Steve Cresswell.*



## Victorian Sheep Show



Grand champion ram at the Victorian Sheep Show in Ballarat exhibited by Bright Side, Purnim, Vic.



Champion Poll Dorset ewe at the Victorian Sheep Show, Ballarat, was exhibited by Blauvelt stud, Comaidai, with reserve from Mallee Park, Hopetoun.

## Campbell Town show



Supreme Poll Dorset exhibit at the Campbelltown Show, Tasmania, was the August-drop ram exhibited by the Day family of Sunnybanks and Faraday Park, Penguin, Tas.



POLL DORSETS

Sale will be interfaced with



**ON PROPERTY  
PRE SALE OPEN DAY**  
Saturday 7th October - 10am to 1pm

Refreshments provided

# RAM SALE

**SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2023  
1PM - MARULAN**

**INSPECTIONS  
WELCOME**  
via arrangement

- ✓ Ewe bloodlines: Armdale, Armdale Park, Valley Vista and Gooramma.
- ✓ Ram bloodlines: Ashcharmoo, Gooramma, Hillden, Armdale Park & Springwaters.
- ✓ Low Birth Weight, early maturing and high muscling lambs.
- ✓ All rams have been DNA Tested.



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Matt Joseph  
0427 211 697

# Poll Dorsets shortwool supreme at ASWS

*Courtesy of Bryce Eishold, Andrew Miller, and Philippe Perez, Stock & Land*

Valley Vista Poll Dorset stud, Coolac, NSW, won the supreme shortwool exhibit at the Australian Sheep & Wool Show with a Poll Dorset ewe that attracted the judges' eyes from the outset of the competition.

The Poll Dorset was the feature breed at this year's event, held in Bendigo in July.

Valley Vista Poll Dorset stud's Joe Scott said he was overwhelmed with the prestigious result.

"We had a look yesterday through all the breed champions and as it was commented, it was a strong line up of ewes and rams from each breed," Mr Scott said.

"Even when she won on Saturday and beat the Dorset ram, we were surprised."

Poll Dorsets, according to Mr Scott, are renowned as leaders in the industry for early-growth and vigour.

"We have a commercial operation separate to the stud where we run Dorsets over 1600 Merino ewes, along with 1000 stud ewes," Mr Scott said.

"The benefits for the Dorsets are to go over that Merino ewe or that crossbred ewe and produce that early-finishing, fast-maturing lamb.

"While prices aren't hot for lambs, it's good to have that early, quick lamb out of the way and that's what the Poll Dorset does."



*Grand and senior champion ram with exhibitor Dane Rowley, Springwaters stud, Victorian state committee president Damon Coats, judge Chris Badcock and reserve senior ram with Katie Shapcott, Yentrac stud.*



*Supreme interbreed exhibit Valley Vista 220076 with Joe Scott.*

Earlier in the show, the ewe won champion Poll Dorset ewe and supreme exhibit of the breed.

Shortwool judge Graham Wilson, Kismet White Suffolk and Poll Dorset stud, Howlong, NSW, said the ewe was hard to fault.

"The Poll Dorset ewe caught my eye straight away with her nice-shaped shoulders and she stood up easily on her feet," Mr Wilson said.

The ewe was by the 2004-drop Kurralea Phoenix 809.

"He has always produced a very good line of females - every time we have crossed him, we have always got success.

"A lot of people think the young stuff is always the best stuff, but every now and then you can go back and use something like this and it works.

Judge Chris Badcock, Fairbank, Hagley, Tasmania, said it was a very hard decision to split the ram and ewe for the supreme ribbon.

"I am sure the crowd maybe would have gone a different way, but I don't know how you split two exceptional animals," Mr Badcock said.

"In the end I loved the shape of that ewe, for a female she has just got that perfect wedge shape.

"She just ticked the boxes."

Mr Badcock said could not find a lot wrong with the champion ewe.

"She presents very well, she walks very well, she has a beautiful shoulder and wedge shape, which is exactly what you want," he said.

The senior and grand champion ram ribbons were won by Springwaters Poll Dorset stud, Boorowa, NSW; the reserve ribbon was won by Yentrac.



## AROUND THE SHOWS

The Springwaters ram weighed 141 kilograms, had a 51 millimetre muscle depth, 113mm muscle width and 10mm of fat.

His eye muscle area was measured at 44.38 square centimetres.

Mr Badcock said it was also hard to choose between the junior and senior champion rams.

"They are both brilliant examples of the breed, you could probably argue they are slightly different types - you have a ram, which is very heavily muscled, and another ram, which is slightly longer,

"I just like the overall power and presence of that senior ram, I loved his muscling and that's probably why I have just gone that way."

Its 120kg ram had a 47mm muscle depth, a 103mm muscle width, 7.5mm fat measurement and 37.28 square centimetre eye muscle area.



*James Frost, Hillden, Crookwell, NSW, with the reserve champion ewe, judge Chris Badcock, and Sally Scott, Valley Vista, Coolac, NSW, with the champion ewe, which went on to be supreme exhibit.*

### Poll Dorsets feature at ASWS

A dozen studs from three states headed to Bendigo last weekend for the Australian Sheep & Wool Show Poll Dorset feature judging.

And accolades were spread across the breeders, and judge Chris Badcock of Fairbank

Prime Lamb Sires at Hagley, Tasmania, was impressed with the turn out, especially the structure of the sheep.

"I didn't find any real faults in that regard, feet and legs were all really good, and shoulder settings, they were all of pretty high standard," he said.

"Our environment and market are looking for well muscled, good shouldered, correct rams, so ultimately that is what I was looking for."

The most successful exhibitor sash was awarded to Yentrac stud, Tatura, after every one of their sheep placed in the top five during judging, with most coming a lot higher up the line.

Most notably, the McCartney family from Yentrac exhibited the reserve senior champion ram, with Y220002, and placed second in the prestigious mixed pair class.

Yentrac 220002 weighed in at 134kg, and had a muscle depth of 55mm, muscle width of 114mm and 10mm of fat, making its eye muscle area 47.86.

"It was the best scanning ram in the Poll Dorsets, and the ram will be up for sale at the Australian Dorset Championships in September," Mr McCartney said.

The Frosts from Hillden stud at Crookwell, NSW, travelled the furthest of all Poll Dorset exhibitors, and made it worthwhile taking a swag of ribbons home with them.

This included junior champion ram with H220450, taken from the June-drop clean and evenly shorn class, and reserve champion ewe with their ewe in the wool H220023.

Hillden also won the group of 1 ram and 2 ewes class, the shorn pair of ewes class and the woolly ram class.

The junior ram, which was also the ram in the group, was by Tattykeel 200274, a \$32,000 sire, and it too will be offered

for sale at the ADC back in Bendigo on September 10.

The reserve junior champion ram, Valley Vista 220399, exhibited by the Scott family, will be another of the show's broad ribbon winners which will be offered at the ADC later in the year.

Valley Vista also exhibited the winning ram lamb and ewe lamb, with the ewe - VV230154 - sashed champion Poll Dorset lamb of the show.

Glenore stud from Carisbrook placed first in the shorn ewe class and second in the August-drop ewe class, as well as placing in the pair of rams.

Charlotte Cain of Glenore also had her first judging position at this year's Australian Sheep & Wool Show, in the Dorset Horn section, a great opportunity and achievement for the 18-year-old, who also recently attended the SA Sheep Expo in Adelaide and won a chance to steward at the Royal Adelaide Show later this year.

Estjam stud, Woolsthorpe, brought a team to Bendigo and took home place ribbons in the ewe lamb class and both the pair of rams class and pair of June-drop rams class, as well as placing third in the group of three rams class, and the renowned Ian Bucknall Trophy class.

Liz Mann of Glenelm stud at Tatura East was exhibiting at just her second Australian Sheep & Wool Show, and took a clean sweep of the novice classes.

Also bringing an impressive team to Bendigo was Mallee Park, Hopetoun, placing in shorn April-drop and shorn June-drop ram classes, as well as the pair of shorn rams and bare shorn ewe under 1.5 years.

Will Milroy, Rangeview stud, Pipers River, Tasmania made the trip across the Bight, winning the June-drop pair of rams class and placing in the shorn ram class.

Mr Milroy will return to Bendigo for the Australasian Dorset Championships in September, but will be on the other side, as the judge of the event.



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### STUD RAM OFFERING TO INCLUDE:

Tag	Sire	BWT	PWWT	PEMD	PFAT	IMF	SF5	TCP	LEQ
220056	Ilfracombe 200286	0.6	20.7	3.2	-0.6	-0.3	1.7	169.8	169.1
220131	Ilfracombe 200286	0.4	16.5	3.5	-0.3	-0.1	1.2	158.8	159.8
220450	Pepperton 200179	0.3	15.4	3.7	0.2	-0.2	0.9	154.9	151.8
220442	Pepperton 200179	0.4	19.3	3.5	-0.1	-0.6	2.9	163.1	155.9
220386	Pepperton 200179	0.4	17.6	2.9	-0.8	-0.2	1.6	161.0	157.6

See website for full Stud Ram listing.

## FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 1PM

### 12 STUD RAMS 20 STUD EWES 88 ELITE FLOCK RAMS

## BID ONLINE VIA AUCTIONS PLUS

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Craig McLachlan 0418 838 751

Nutrien - Peter Marschall 0428 196 935  
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OB  
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#43





# Poll Dorset ewe sweeps Sheepvention

*Courtesy of Philippe Perez, Stock & Land*

The Rene stud, Culcairn, NSW has kicked off what is hoped to be a successful show season in fantastic fashion, winning the Poll Dorset supreme exhibit at the 2023 Sheepvention event with their grand champion ewe.

The stud also won the grand champion ram ribbon at the event, which stud co-principal Scott Mitchell said it was great to get success ahead of the Australasian Dorset Championships, to be held in Bendigo in September.

"It's a great honour to come down here and do so well in such a big show," he said.

"We pretty much targeted this show, because we want to get to the September show later on down the track, and this is a good area to get some publicity if we do well.

"We thought we had a fairly handy team too here and we're very impressed with the result we've got to that extent."

Mr Mitchell said the winning supreme exhibit ewe had great, dense wool cover with a great shoulder setting.



Champion ewe with Judge Joe Scott and owner Scott Mitchell from the Rene stud. Photo: Jessica Sutherland

"She has really good Poll Dorset type, has got a beautiful outlook and is well balanced and beautiful on her feet, with all the muscle you want," he said.

"Honestly, the day I started to get this ewe out and get it somewhere to know we could have something to show, I knew we had something special, because she stuck out in amongst all the other ewes."

The winning exhibit had initially won supreme champion ewe in Mr Mitchell's local show in Gundagai, NSW.

He said his supreme champion ram winner was also a wonderful exhibit, and will be retained for his flock in upcoming years.

"It is a stylish, beautiful ram who also has a great outlook with a strong head on him," he said.

"There is beautiful length on the ram too, which for where we sell rams into our area, he'll be doing a lot of work through our stud."

Sheepvention Poll Dorset judge Joe Scott, Valley Vista, Coolac, NSW said he "couldn't go past the ewe" for the ribbon and said it had "great depth and line".

Both the Poll Dorset champions went on to be supreme interbreed shortwool ewe and ram.

Mr Mitchell said the experience of attending Sheepvention was beneficial and speaking to other Poll Dorset breeders was a major highlight.

"Poll Dorset sheep are not only dominant here in Hamilton but all over Australia, and when you have many judges from different breeds putting us up there in quality, that really starts resonating to you, and tells you that you are doing the right thing," he said.

"Makes you really feel good about the direction you are heading."

**Judge:** Joe Scott Coolac

**Rabobank Supreme Poll Dorset Exhibit:** Rene Studs, Champion Ewe: 220067

**Grand Champion Ram:** Rene Studs 220051

**Champion Senior Ram:** Rene Studs 220051

**Reserve Senior Champion Ram:** Rene Studs 220088

**Junior Champion Ram:** Glenore 220045

**Reserve Junior Champion Ram:** Mallee Park 220197

**Champion Ewe:** Rene Studs 220067

**Reserve Champion Ewe:** Glenore Studs 220099

**PD Group 1 Ram & 2 Ewes:** Rene Stud

**Sire Progeny Group:** Glenore

**Group of 3 Rams:** Glenore

**Most Successful Lamb Exhibitor:** Estjam

**Most Successful Ram Exhibitor:** Mallee Park

**Most Successful Poll Dorset Exhibitor:** Mallee Park.



Charollais

Poll Dorset White Suffolk

Scott Mitchell

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# 35TH YEAR ON PROPERTY FLOCK RAM SALE

## FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

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80 FLOCK RAMS

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51.22 "VALIDATOR"



INTERBREED CHAMPION EWE  
67.22 "MATILDA"



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DORSET CHAMPIONSHIPS SHOW & SALE ON THE 8-10TH



# Naracoorte-Hamilton Poll Dorset Field Day

*Courtesy of Jessica Sutherland*

A great day of fellowship, social interaction and networking was held at the Naracoorte Showground on Friday 18/08/23. Teams of rams were displayed from Allendale, Janmac, Konongwootong, Mullinger Park, Mullgundawa, Tarraleah, Warrawindi, Wrattenbullie, and Zacman Studs. This year about 20 students from Bordertown and Naracoorte Schools attended a workshop on sheep handling and ram selection.

Mr Andrew Frick addressed the students as well as Alister Day.

Members and visitors were able to leisurely view the sheep on display and catch up with colleagues. Andrew Frick was invited to judge the Inaugural Rod Davies Group of 3 Rams. The Warrawindi team from Penola took out the award. Everyone was able to enjoy a lamb BBQ.



# Ekka 2023: champion of champions ram won by Warwick stud

*Courtesy of Brandon Long, Queensland Country Life*

A Warwick stud sheep producer was left smiling ear to ear on Saturday, taking out two champion of champions titles at the Ekka.

Chris and Meryl Rubie of Sovereign Poll Dorsets at Warwick faced tough competition in the ring but could not be bested, winning champion of champions ram with Poll Dorset lamb 7/22.

Remarkably, it's the third year in a row the pair has won the major ram prize.

Later on in the program, they also claimed champion of champions breeders group.

Mr Rubie said they were extremely pleased to take home the prizes.

"It's three in a row, so we're pretty pleased with that obviously," Mr Rubie said.

"We enjoy doing what we're doing, so that's why we keep doing it."

The Rubie family runs a small operation breeding about 70 rams a year - most of which go to Merino breeders.

With plenty of clients in the Longreach area, they've been able to send 20-plus rams every year.

Mr Rubie said they trusted the genetics of their breeding and saw a great future for the sheep industry.

"It's great to see the sheep industry doing well, and although there's a bit of a slump at the moment in prices, I believe it's short-lived," he said.

"The markets are opening up, particularly for export, and that is just unstoppable as far as quantities required, so it's a great future for the prime lamb industry."

Judge Ben Hill said Sovereign's ram and group exhibits were standouts on the day.

"The ram's extremely well balanced. He's got a very good, strong top line. He stands down really firm on all four feet and has a really good scrotal setup, with a power of meat to him for a young ram," Mr Hill said.

"In the group, they were just three sheep that were extremely well structured and stood really well on their feet. They moved nicely, had plenty of bone capacity through them, with a great volume of meat on the carcass."





## AROUND THE SHOWS



Australian Sheep & Wool Show Reserve Junior Champion Ram held by Sally Scott, Valley Vista, Coolac, NSW, judge Chris Badcock and Junior Champion Ram with James Frost, Hillden, Crookwell, NSW.



James, Brian and Pip Frost from Hillden stud, Crookwell, NSW, with the winning group of 1 ram and 2 ewes at the ASWS.



The Adelaide region Poll Dorset Association was proud to provide bursaries for 10 young sheep enthusiasts to attend this year's SA Sheep Expo.



Show teams from The Riverina Anglican College and Finley High School represented at Cowra NSW Dorset Championships



Winning breeders group from Rene stud at the NSW Dorset Championships.



# AUSTRALASIAN DORSET CHAMPIONSHIPS

## ADC returns to September



The Australasian Dorset Championships Show and Sale has moved back to its original timing.

Running from Friday 8 to Sunday 10 September 2023, in the Regional Events Complex at the Bendigo Prince of Wales Showgrounds, studs will once again come from four states for the event.

Adjudicating this year will be Will Milroy, Rangeview and Rangeview Park Poll Dorset studs, Pipers River, Tasmania.

The show will commence at 1pm on Friday 8 September with Dorset Horns, with Poll Dorset ewe and lamb classes to follow at approximately 3pm.

Friday night's onsite BBQ and drinks will kindly be sponsored by Elders, Alltech Lienert Australia and Nutriren Ag Solutions.

Judging will kick off again at 9am on Saturday 9 September with Poll Dorset ram and group classes, including the Champion of Champions classes.

The Champion of Champions Ewe will win \$1500 sponsored by DW&MJ McKinnon, while the Champion of Champions Ram will receive \$3000 from WFI Insurance.

A breeders social function sponsored by and held at the Rifle Brigade Hotel will conclude the show from 6.30pm on Saturday evening.

The annual ram sale will be conducted on Sunday 10 September at 1.30pm and will be held both on site and online via AuctionsPlus.



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Annual On-Farm Sale  
Friday 29th September 2023

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# Australian breeders visit the world's oldest Dorset stud

John Kelly Marocara Poll Dorset Stud, Ian and Christine O'Leary Narranmore Poll Dorset Stud and Dale and Ruth Price of the Majardah Poll Dorset Stud visited the world's oldest Dorset Horn Stud in England recently.

Manor Farm, North Poorton near Bridport Devon in the United Kingdom hosted the visit as part of an Australian Farmers Tour of Britain and the Irish Republic.

The Australian breeders were impressed by the quality of the Fook family's Dorset Horn and Poll Dorset sheep. In fact, John Kelly described them as the best sheep he'd seen on the five-week farming tour.

Mr Francis Fooks and his three brothers have successfully operated the study initially founded by his great grandfather Fredrick Fooks in the 1800s.

The Dorset Horn stud was formally recorded in 1906 and has been run by the family ever since.

Francis leads the family's commitment to the two studs.

He meticulously records pedigrees and searches widely for new genetics from an ever-declining number of flocks. His goal is to avoid inbreeding.

Some poll dorset genetics were sourced from Australia after Francis visited a number of studs including Malkay and Valma about 30 years ago.

The polled and horned dorset ewes scanned 192 per cent and the ewes will lamb in September while they are shedded to escape cold winter weather.

Lambs will be marked, tagged and vaccinated within 48 hours of birth.

As soon as the weather improves the sheep will be run on undulating country. A small number of rams are sold as commercial and stud sires while surplus lambs are sold to Waitrose.

The Australian breeders complimented Mr. Fooks on the quality of the ewes, saying they would be very pleased to see the sheep in their own flocks.



Fook family's yearling rams



WRATTENBULLIE  
POLL DORSETS



**TAG 220068**    SIRE **WAR024**    PWT **18.13**  
TCP **143.02**    PEMD **1.40**  
BWT **0.45**    PFAT **-1.07**



**TAG 220118**    SIRE **DER156**    PWT **16.66**  
TCP **151.85**    PEMD **3.68**  
BWT **0.52**    PFAT **-0.1**

ANNUAL POLL DORSET RAM SALE  
**MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2023**  
1.30PM AT NARACOORTE SHOW GROUNDS



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**130 FLOCK RAMS**

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Flock 1543

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# **Second stage of dispersal on property Coledale Poll Dorset Stud**

**Thursday 28th  
September 2023**

**Offering**

**110 young ewes  
and 110 young rams**

**Sale starting at 10.30am  
with young ewes followed  
by young rams at 2.00pm**



High Index progeny  
sires including  
Ilfracrome

286/20 TCP 167.58.

Coledale

220/19 TCP 154.69.

Coledale

44/15 TCP 145.46

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Contact Wallace and Sue Binnie 0427 944 035 [wbinnie@bigpond.com](mailto:wbinnie@bigpond.com)







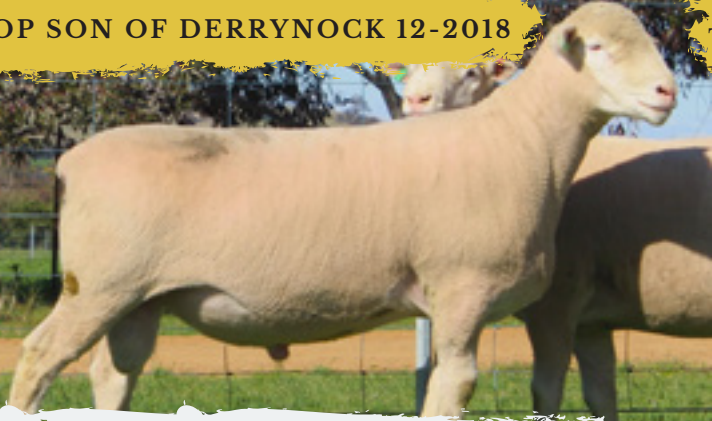
# GOORAMMA POLL DORSET STUD

150 PERFORMANCE RAMS

1:30PM FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2023

## GOORAMMA 998-2022

TOP SON OF DERRYNOCK 12-2018



PWT +17.30 - MUSCLE +3.61

D12-2018 X HILLCROFT FARMS 156-18

LOT 1 ANNUAL SALE

## GOORAMMA 274-2022

TOP SON OF GOORAMMA 528-2022



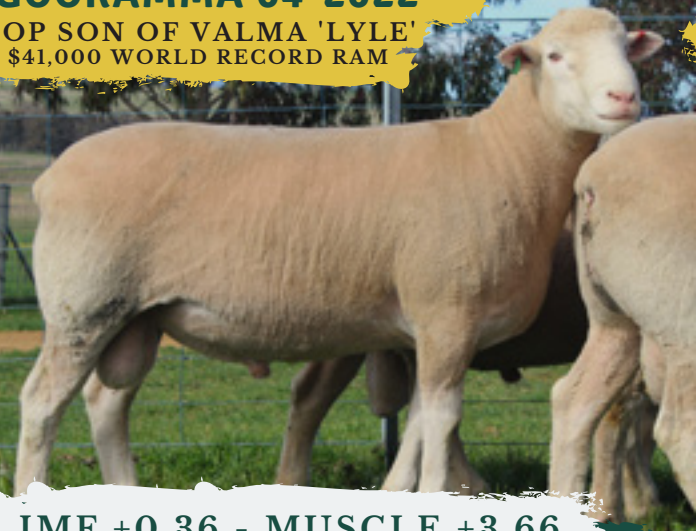
WWT +11.09 - LMY +5.46

G528-2020 X GOORAMMA 129-18

LOT 6 ANNUAL SALE

## GOORAMMA 64-2022

TOP SON OF VALMA 'LYLE'  
\$41,000 WORLD RECORD RAM



IMF +0.36 - MUSCLE +3.66

VALMA 'LYLE' X GOORAMMA 'RIBEYE'

LOT 2 ANNUAL SALE

## GOORAMMA 28-2022

TOP SON OF VALMA 'LYLE'  
\$41,000 WORLD RECORD RAM



IMF +0.50 - PWT +15.81

VALMA 'LYLE' X GOORAMMA 'RIBEYE'

LOT 12 ANNUAL SALE

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## 2023 Annual Ram Sale

Don't miss our upcoming 2023 annual ram sale, offering 250 stud and flock Poll Dorset rams.

Tuesday, 3rd October 2023, starting at 1pm

"Oak Hill" 1517 Howlong Rd, Burrumbuttock, NSW 2642

On site inspections from 11am, with a light luncheon provided.



★ Meet the future stars of our industry, including the No.1 ranked ram on LambPlan (1/8/2023) - Aberdeen 220448. ★

### Aberdeen 220448

Genomics Tested ✓

Sire	Bwt	Wwt	Pwt	Pemd	Pfat	TCP	EQ	IMF	SHEARF5
VALMA 200096	0.69	14.19	22.85	3.85	-0.14	173.87	165.52	-0.64	2.86

Top 5% WWT, Top 5% PWT, Top 5% PEMD, Top 5% TCP, Top 5% EQ.

#1

### Aberdeen 220384

Genomics Tested ✓

Sire	Bwt	Wwt	Pwt	Pemd	Pfat	TCP	EQ	IMF	SHEARF5
VALMA 200063	0.29	11.87	18.11	4.25	-0.74	169.53	161.65	-0.63	2.69

Top 10% WWT, Top 10% PWT, Top 5% PEMD, Top 5% TCP, Top 5% EQ.

### Aberdeen 220288

Genomics Tested ✓

Sire	Bwt	Wwt	Pwt	Pemd	Pfat	TCP	EQ	IMF	SHEARF5
VALMA 200096	0.77	13.34	21.40	2.63	-1.16	168.59	162.67	-0.43	2.97

Top 5% WWT, Top 5% PWT, Top 5% TCP, Top 5% EQ.

### Aberdeen 220317

Genomics Tested ✓

Sire	Bwt	Wwt	Pwt	Pemd	Pfat	TCP	EQ	IMF	SHEARF5
VALMA 200063	0.35	10.57	16.69	3.46	-0.26	158.75	148.87	-0.80	2.95

Top 10% PEMD, Top 5% TCP, Top 20% EQ.

For all ram, semen and ewe enquiries call Rod or visit our website!

Rod and Ange Frohling

"Oak Hill" 1517 Howlong Rd,  
Burrumbuttock, NSW 2642

Ph: 0428 250 725 Email: info@hovellstud.com.au

[aberdeenpolldorsets.com.au](http://aberdeenpolldorsets.com.au)



Brucellosis Accredited Y.012



# Dale Maxwell Moore

*Courtesy of the Moore Family*

**17/03/1964 - 17/07/2023**

It is with great sadness to announce the passing of Dale in July this year, after an ongoing battle with Multiple System Atrophy syndrome (“MSA”), resulting in loss of movement and speech.

Although a crippling illness, Dale retained his sense of humour and cheeky nature, continuing to see the funny side of things and make the best of his situation.

Dale’s life consisted of his sheep, his family (including sheep family) and his friends.

He left school at 16 years of age following the death of his grandfather Basil Moore, to take up the farm and the Lyngrove/Punchgrove Southdown studs with his father Kevin.

In following years, Poll Dorset’s and White Suffolk’s were added to the Penrise/Punchgrove portfolios by Dale.

Dale was renowned for his knowledge and breeding of sheep.

Dale had a keen eye for sheep, over the years judging and showing sheep at numerous locations and winning many awards.

Dale was honestly at his happiest on the farm in Campania with his sheep.

Dale was awarded a Life Membership from the Tasmanian Poll Dorset Association in 2018.

He is hopefully now at peace, doing what he loved by looking at sheep and getting ready for sale time of the year. Rest in peace Dale, until we talk sheep again.



**THE NEW GOLD STANDARD OF SHEEP VACCINES**

**GlanEry® 7in1 B12**



**ERYSIPELAS ARTHRITIS**

**CHEEY GLAND (CLA)**

**BOOSTED WITH VITAMIN B12**

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**ALL IN A 1ML DOSE**

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- ✓ Protects **Meat Quality**
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## SALE DATES

STUD	STATE	DATE	TIME	STUD RAMS	FLOCK RAMS
Abelene Park	NSW	28-Sep	1.30pm		50
Aberdeen	NSW	3-Oct	1pm		250
Armdale	NSW	22-Sep	1pm		100
Armdale Park	NSW	29-Sep	1pm	16	180
Ashbank	NSW	13-Sep	1.30pm		100
Ashcharmoo	NSW	21-Oct	1pm	4	30
Athlone	VIC	20-Oct			
Avondale	NSW	6-Sep	2pm		100
Barwon	NSW	13-Oct			
Bo Bar	NSW	16-Nov			
Brimfield	WA	3-Oct			
Bruan	VIC	16-Oct	1pm	8	150
Brurob	VIC	13-Oct	1pm	8	90
Cranbrook	NSW	7-Sep	1pm	5	50
Deepdene	NSW	1-Sep			
Derby Downs	VIC	6-Oct	1pm	10	90
Derrynock	VIC	12-Oct	1pm		150
Dursley	NSW	7-Sep	9.30am		60
Englewood Park	VIC	11-Oct	1pm	10	90
Estjam	VIC	6-Oct	3pm	6	55
Fairbank	TAS	9-Nov	1pm		70
Geejay	VIC	26-Sep	1pm	3	53
Glen Devon	SA	18-Sep			
Glenore	VIC	4-Oct	1pm	10	90
Gooramma	NSW	15-Sep	1.30pm		150
Hillden	NSW	3-Nov	2pm	10	140
Hovell	NSW	3-Oct	1pm		
Icon	VIC	5-Oct	11.30am		
Ilfracombe	VIC	2-Oct	1pm		100
Ivadene	VIC	3-Oct	1pm	15	100
Janmac	VIC	4-Oct	1pm		
Kenlorne	SA	10-Oct	1.30pm	2	80
Kentish Downs Online Only (2022 Drop)	NSW	22-Sep	1pm	30	
Kentish Downs (2023 Drop)	NSW	8-Nov	1pm		
Konongwootong	VIC	19-Oct	11am	10	200
Kurralea	NSW	26-Sep	12.30pm	15	150
Leween	WA	12-Oct			



## SALE DATES

STUD	STATE	DATE	TIME	STUD RAMS	FLOCK RAMS
LSK	VIC	27-Oct	1.30pm	6	100
Majella	VIC	22-Sep	12.30pm		110
Mallee Park	VIC	28-Sep	11am		100
Marocara	NSW	5-Sep	1pm		180
Melton Vale	TAS	21-Nov	2pm		
Merrengreen	NSW	27-Sep			
Moora Hills	VIC	11-Oct	2pm		
Mulgundawa	SA	9-Oct	1pm		
Mullinger Park	SA	5-Oct	1pm	6	200
Narranmore	NSW	8-Sep			
Newbold	SA	22-Sep	1pm (SA)	12	88
Pembroke	VIC	5-Oct	1pm		60
Pepperton	VIC	18-Oct	1pm		50
Pinewalla	NSW	6-Nov	1pm	10	120
Pinora	VIC	18-Oct			
Rene	NSW	29-Sep	12.30pm	8	80
Ridgehaven	NSW	14-Sep	1pm	20	130
Rosewood	NSW	3-Oct	1pm		80
Rowallan	NSW	1-Sep	1.30pm		145
Shellal	VIC	10-Oct	1pm	5	120
Shirlee Downs	WA	15-Sep	12pm		
Springwaters	NSW	29-Sep	1pm	16	204
Stockdale	WA	20-Sep			
Stokes Bay Genetics	SA	20-Oct	1pm		80
Tellarup	WA	11-Oct			
Ulandi Park	SA	29-Sep	1pm		150
Valley Vista	NSW	6-Oct			
Valma (Online Auction)	TAS	18-Sep	12.30pm	15	30
Warburn	NSW	27-Sep			
Warrawindi	SA	13-Oct	12.30pm	6	150
Woolumbool	SA	4-Oct	12pm		
Wrattenbullie	SA	9-Oct	1.30pm	6	130
Wunnamurra	NSW	14-Sep	12pm		180
Yentrac (Tatura)	VIC	27-Sep			
Yentrac (Ballarat)	VIC	18-Oct			
Zacman	SA	27-Sep			

# ARMDALE PARK POLL DORSET STUD

www.armdalepark.com.au

'QUALITY BREEDS QUALITY'



HIGHEST AUSTRALIAN POLL DORSET FLOCK RAM AVERAGE 2021 & 2022

## ANNUAL STUD & FLOCK RAM SALE

16 STUD RAMS - 180 FLOCK RAMS

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### SALE VENUE

On-Property , 'Armdale Park' Berry Jerry Lane - Marrar

Sale Interfaced with

**AUCTIONS PLUS**



**PRIOR INSPECTIONS WELCOME**

This year's sale features the first son's of Tattykeel 200080 purchased for \$36,000.

Top priced Ram 2022 On Property Sale Purchased by Karl Sinclair - Boree Lane Poll Dorset Stud for \$29,000.



**Garry & Catherine Armstrong**

Mobile: 0427 275 134

Email: [garmstrong@activ8.net.au](mailto:garmstrong@activ8.net.au)





# ADVERTISING RATES

## ADVERTISING RATES

(INCLUDES FULL COLOUR) ALL PRICES BELOW ARE GST INCLUSIVE

	Members	Commercial
Back cover	\$751	\$938
Inside front or back cover	\$601	\$751
Double page spread	\$889	\$1112
Centre spread	\$947	\$1184
Full page	\$543	\$679
Half page	\$358	\$448
Quarter page	\$219	\$274
1/8th page	\$162	\$202

## SERVICE FEES

ALL PRICES BELOW ARE GST INCLUSIVE

The following basic typesetting/layout fees will apply where professional artwork is not supplied:

Full page	\$104.50	Up to 4 photographic scans are included in the service fees. Additional scans are \$5 each.
1/2 page	\$82.50	
1/4 page	\$60.50	
1/8 page	\$49.50	

Service fees do not apply where the complete advertising copy layout is supplied as a high resolution CMYK PDF file.

**PLEASE NOTE: Advertisements:** Print ready advertisements must be supplied as a CMYK (not RGB) PDF. Full page advertisements need a 3mm bleed and crop marks.

**Supplied photographs:** When sending photographs electronically for advertising or editorial use, they need to be at least 1MB in file size and high resolution; and attached as a jpeg file.

**Word, Publisher, Powerpoint** and **other** file formats **cannot** be used for full production but may be supplied as a layout guide - however, photos must be supplied separately.

## ADVERT SPECIFICATIONS

Full page (full bleed)	303mm deep x 216mm wide
Full page bordered	270mm deep x 182 mm wide
Double page spread	303mm deep x 426mm wide
Half page (H)	130mm deep x 182mm wide
Half page (V)	270mm deep x 88mm wide
Quarter page (V)	130mm deep x 88mm wide
Quarter page (H)	62mm high x 182mm wide
One Eighth page	62mm high x 88mm wide

## ADVERTISING BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Patrick Falconer, Unit 1/6 Merino Court, East Bendigo, 3550  
Tel: (03) 5443 9902 Email: marketing@polldorset.org.au

## ADVERTISING COPY & MATERIAL

All advertising and service rates are subject to change.

Issue	Advertising material	Date posted
May	Closes April 14	April 28
September	Closes August 8	August 23
December	Closes November 13	November 27


Advertising bookings required a full week before advertising material closing dates.



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