

WOOLUMBOOL NEWS

Accredited
Brucellosis
Free
No 326



September 2018

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2018 News. So far our region has benefitted from a very good season in comparison to many in SA and across Australia and we do hope this continues on. Our sale rams again will present in top condition having had access to plenty of pasture as a result of the favourable conditions.

We sincerely thank all clients for their ongoing support during 2017/18, and extend a very warm welcome to any new clients.

Regards;
The Clothier family
Lucindale, SA

Phone: (08) 8765 8026 Fax: (08) 8765 8002
Mobiles: Phil 0427 658 026 Aaron 0428 658 002

Email: woolumbool@bigpond.com

We encourage you to use our website to check for updates and catalogues



www.woolumbool.com.au



Woolumbool's 2018/19 Calendar of Events

- Annual Auction - Wednesday 3rd October, Yacca Downs Woolshed, 1pm
- October - December Selection of Multimeat Lease Rams
- March 2019-SE Field Days-Display Woolumbool Studs in conjunction with Multimeats Pty Ltd
- August 2019-Hamilton Sheepvention_Multimeats Pty Ltd display

The Year at Woolumbool

After a quite dry summer and autumn the opening rains arrived at around the average date and proceeded to provide above average rainfall for the winter. This has resulted in good pasture growth and generally very good conditions to lamb through. The rams have grown out well due to the excellent feed conditions.

During June/July of this year Sharon and I spent 5 weeks on a farming tour of Great Britain and Ireland. This was a great experience. Many of the farmers here operate on very small properties by our standards and are very reliant on the subsidies they are paid annually to continue their farming operations. There are of course some very large farming properties and these seemed to be very efficient, also aided by subsidies. Brexit was a major component of discussion with most concern being where this will leave their operations with subsidy alterations and access to markets. Ireland is an EU country just to complicate matters further. The beauty of the landscape was stunning. The new shearing shed is finally complete as of a few days ago. This project has taken up much more time than I originally envisaged. It will be a pleasure to use.



The Valais and Hebridean four horned sheep at Edinburgh Royal Show. Thankfully we do not have these in Australia.

Lamb and Wool Production

Livestock agriculture has again had a very rewarding year financially for those in more favourable regions. Prices for lamb, mutton and wool have hit new highs this year and the future looks very bright.

During the production year I have calculated that our XB lambs have averaged an estimated \$7.60/kg dwt with the majority sold as stores/finishers.

Our merino wool flock averaged \$20.36/kg clean with all adult sheep including hoggets averaging close to \$73/hd. Merino wethers wool achieved \$100/hd. The highest priced wool was from weaners at 16.3um and \$29.96 clean so wool has again performed extremely well.

Congratulations

I have recently read that 2 of our long term purchasers of White Suffolk and Poll Dorset rams have placed in the top 10 JBS Great Southern lamb supplier of the year awards.

Congratulations to the Hancock family of Reedy Creek for 2nd placing and the Legoe family of Callendale for 9th placing. It is great to see good management; feeding and genetics combine for these results.

EQ and Indexes

It has become increasingly apparent through industry research that as Australian ram suppliers have constantly increased growth and muscling in terminal sires that the trend in eating quality is slowly declining. Whilst this is nowhere near a problem with consumers at the moment as seedstock producers we need to be aware of this trend and act ahead of any possible detrimental issues. To this end we and other producers within the Meat Elite and Superwhites groups are actively using Genomics to identify genetics superior for EQ traits. The relatively new index LEQ helps us to identify these animals. This year as last the catalogue will display 3 indexes. **Carcase+, Lamb 2020 & LEQ** along with all relevant **ASBV** traits.

2018 Sale Rams

At Woolumbool we are proud to produce rams with balanced ASBV's to give our clients the greatest possible chance of meeting their production aims.

This year we were forced to supplement our spring born rams during late autumn as did many livestock producers due to the prolonged dry summer. We did this by trail feeding lupins. Many of the rams are in the 12 month age bracket and are hence very fit and active. They are most importantly not overfed.

We recommend these young rams for your use.

Woolumbool Poll Merinos

This year we are offering 15 high quality Poll Merino rams with lovely soft bright fleece rot resistant wools. The genetic trends for the Woolumbool Poll Merino flock consistently demonstrate that our flock is well above average across all the main indexes these being **FP+, MP+ & DP+**. We have a number of AI bred sons of the current leading Leahcim sire 152775 catalogued. We believe these rams will be great value and very good flock improvers for merino producers.

Multimeats

During the last 10 months through the Multimeat company in conjunction with the Earl family we have been producing embryo's under contract for export to China. This is proving to be quite satisfying.