

WOOLUMBOOL NEWS

Accredited
Brucellosis
Free
No 326



September 2017

WELCOME

Welcome to our 2017 News. Well what a pleasant surprise to be experiencing 2 above average rainfall years on the trot. We have had 9 months above average rainfall of the 11 months since last years ram sale. Our sale rams will present in top condition as a result of the favourable conditions.

We sincerely thank all clients for their ongoing support during 2016/17, 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 2017/18 Calendar of Events

- Annual Auction - Wednesday 4th October, Greenvale Woolshed, 1pm
- October - December Selection of Multimeat Lease Rams
- March 2018-SE Field Days-Display Woolumbool Studs in conjunction with Multimeats Pty Ltd
- August 2017-Hamilton Sheepvention_Multimeats Pty Ltd display

The Year at Woolumbool

Some family news. In February our eldest son Jason with Elyse, Patrick and Geoffrey following in April, moved to WA to undertake management of a 9300ha property at Badgingarra, running 16,000 ewes. We wish them all the best in this venture and hope one day to have them back home again.

We have finally made progress in the construction of our new shearing shed and today as I write, the earth moving contractors have finished the base so that the build can take place. This development means that this will be the final year of our ram sales held at the Greenvale shed and from 2018 onwards we will be having the annual ram sale at the home property Yacca Downs.

Having had an unusually early opening to the season our late Winter/Spring lambing ewes, which currently is the majority of our flock, were mated on green feed with rising body weights. This has meant we scanned an abundance of multiple pregnancies in our ewes, particularly in mature ewes. This looks as if it will translate into very good lambing percentages for the 2017 year, given that weather and feed conditions at lambing have been very favourable.



The new shearing shed site

Lamb and Wool Production

We have certainly had very impressive and one would think profitable prices for most livestock enterprises over the last couple of years which gives the entire livestock sector great confidence. During the production year I have calculated that our XB lambs have averaged an estimated \$6.40/kg dwt even though they are sold as stores/finishers.

Our merino wool flock averaged \$16.46/kg clean with all adult sheep including hoggets averaging close to \$60/hd. The highest priced wool was from weaners at 16.4um and \$20.12 clean so wool has been performing very well unless of course you produce wool which is greater than around 28um which unfortunately barely covers the costs of shearing.

Genomics

This years crop of lambs both White Suffolk and Poll Dorset will be subject to extensive DNA genomic testing due to both the Meat Elite Group and the Superwhites Group successfully obtaining funding via the MLA Donor Company (MDC). This means Woolumbool will be testing 250 Poll Dorsets and 200 White Suffolks of both sexes from the 2017 drop of lambs. There will be 1600 White Suffolk and 4000 Poll Dorset tested within the respective breeding groups This is a very exciting project to be involved with as it seeks to improve the accuracy of genomics testing for the eating quality traits which must be maintained as growth and muscle increases. Some of the cull animals of certain sires within the Superwhites group will also be followed up at slaughter using DEXA and actual measurements of the EQ traits.

New Lambplan Indexes

As a result of the increasing usage of genomics by seedstock producers Lambplan last year introduced new indexes. These indexes named EQ and LEQ are essentially extensions of the most commonly used index's Carcase+ and Lamb2020. We are favouring the LEQ index which enhances the Lamb2020 index by including the eating quality traits of LMY, IMF and Shear Force 5. This years catalogue includes 3 indexes, Carcase+, Lamb2020 and the new LEQ. The LEQ index is designed to make sure that lamb meat continues to have consistently high quality eating experience.

2017 Sale Rams

At Woolumbool we pride ourselves on producing rams with balanced ASBV's to give our clients the greatest possible chance of meeting their production aims.

This year due to favourable seasonal conditions the rams are heavier than usual with it all being done on pasture. Just as we thought we may have to do some supplementary feeding it rained so the grain is still in the silos.

Most of the rams are in the 12 month age bracket and are hence very fit and active. They are importantly not overfed.

We recommend these young rams for your use.

Woolumbool Poll Merinos

For anybody with merino sheep I believe our Poll Merino rams offer top flight wool production judging from their ASBV's on moderate relatively wrinkle free frames.

We are continuing to pursue higher fat and muscle with these sheep whilst holding growth fairly constant.

We are offering 10 of these rams on sale day where they will be Helmsman auctioned at the completion of the PD and WS sale.