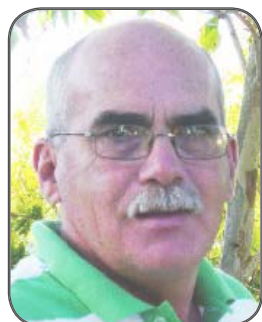




From the President's Desk



Welcome to this the March edition of the AWSA newsletter. As I ponder the past twelve months, I find myself more positive than ever about the future of the White Suffolk breed, and its role in the Australian lamb industry. It is fair to say that at this time lamb and sheep meat are the

standout performers in the rural sector, and the outlook remains positive. In my message at this time last year, I urged you not to 'rest on your laurels'. I feel it is even more important that, at a time when the lamb industry is as healthy as it is at present, we put even greater effort into improving our product. Since the formation of the association nearly 25 years ago, the breed has forged an enviable reputation, and gained a significant market share, in the terminal sire sector. In addition, White Suffolks continue to make gains in the maternal sector. The health of the lamb industry gives us all an opportunity to strengthen that position both individually and as a breed. This won't happen though if we sit back, content to maintain the status quo.

Most AWSA members will be well aware that 2010 marks the 25th anniversary of the formation of the association. As I said in my report to the recent AGM, I wish to acknowledge the aspiration and vision of all involved in the foundation of the breed. I am in no doubt that the formation and growth of this breed has changed the face of the Australian lamb industry forever. I am sure you will notice reference to this milestone in this and subsequent newsletters, and some extra awards at major shows. The celebration will, however, be very much in-house, as I believe our sheep speak for themselves in the wider industry.

At this time I would like to reflect on the contribution of two stalwarts of the breed. Firstly, Ian Pfeiffer. Ian, who retired from council at the recent AGM, has been a valued member of council for some time including two terms as Vice President. His experience and good humour will be missed by all concerned, and I would like to thank him on behalf of all members for his contribution. Secondly, Andrew Michael. As you will see elsewhere in this newsletter, Andrew was awarded Honourary Life membership at the recent conference. I can think of no one more deserving of such an honour, and take this opportunity to congratulate Andrew on behalf of all members.

As I said, Fife has retired from council, and has been replaced by Ian Gilmore. I welcome Ian to council and look forward to his input. It is also with some pleasure that I announce that Julie Wiesner has been elected as Vice President. Julie's contribution to council is greatly valued and I look forward to working with her over the next year. The recent National Conference was well received by all who attended, and I think by any measure an outstanding success, culminating in a very entertaining evening with Sam Kekovich. As someone involved in the organisation of the conference, I am immensely proud of the effort of all concerned. Next years conference is scheduled to be held in South Australia at the same time of the year, so put the dates in your diary and make every effort to attend. Our liaison with the Sheep CRC continues to grow. As President I recently attended a CRC planning meeting and was encouraged by the results coming out of the Meat and Information Nucleus programs. You will be aware from association communications that there is a joint CRC/MLA Pilot Project underway using the latest SNP chip techniques. To encourage members to take part in this project the AWSA is subsidising members half their costs. The plan is to repeat this program later in the year for 2010 drop rams, so if you miss out on the current trial consider nominating rams in round two. I am sure our involvement as a breed will only serve to strengthen our position within the lamb industry.

In closing let me wish all members all the best for the coming year and urge you all to continue to work hard to grow this great breed.

Regards, Steve Milne



Members Forum - Conference 2010

From The Council

Committee Movements

Ian Gilmore, 'Tattykeel' stud, has been elected to Committee for a two year term filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Ian Pfeiffer, 'Burwood' stud.

Steve Milne, 'Waratah' stud, was elected President for another year.

Julie Wiesner, 'Glengarry' stud, has taken on the role of Vice-President.

Secretariat

After some discussion with the Rural Services office of the RA&HS of SA, the council is pleased to announce that **Nikki Pfeiffer** will now formally act as the secretary of the AWSA. Nikki has been doing much of the Associations work in recent times so effectively little will change.

Feature Shows

Council advises that the major shows which are featuring the White Suffolk breed this year are-

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Hamilton Sheepvention | August 2 – 3 |
| Perth Royal | Sept 25 - Oct 2 |
| Hobart Royal | October 20 |

– 23. As this year marks the 25th anniversary of the formation of the AWSA, council urges all members to consider exhibiting or attending to support the breed.

Photos

The association is always on the lookout for good quality photos of White Suffolks and commercial lambs sired by White Suffolk rams. If you have any you think may be of use for association publicity please forward them to Nikki Pfeiffer or Sue Piggott.

2011-2012 National Conferences

The 2011 National Conference is set to be held in South Australia (more than likely north of Adelaide) in mid February.

If all goes to plan the 2012 conference will be held in Tasmania.

Newsletter Deadlines

The deadlines for newsletters will be more strictly adhered to this coming year, in particular the November issue, so that members get important information in a timely manner. It is planned that the website, rather than the newsletter, will be used this year to list sale results. It is envisaged the many members will take the opportunity to use the newsletter to advertise semen available for other members looking to source new genetics at that time of year.

| | Closing Date |
|----------|--------------|
| March | Feb 28th |
| August | July 7th |
| November | Sept 30th |

New Members

| Name | Location | Flock No | Prefix |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
| Rowland & Kerrie Martin | Emu, VIC | 740 | Ume Valley |
| Grace & Molly Cornish | Pawtella, TAS | 741 | Cremorne |
| Leigh & Bronwyn Ellis | Mount Moriac, VIC | 742 | Sweetfield |
| James, William & Sharee Darmody | Boorowa, NSW | 743 | Wantana |
| Anthony & Jackie Bagnall | Mt Lonarch, VIC | 744 | Amphi |
| Denam Carter | Mount Barker, WA | 745 | Ridge Top |
| Harris & Prue Alan | Costerfield, VIC | 746 | Koole Vale |
| Brenton & Kathryn Paech | Port Lincoln, SA | 747 | Brenalta |
| Ray & Vicki Mulligan | Guyra, NSW | 748 | Waubic |
| Mark & Renae Edwards | Dumbleyung, WA | 749 | Rockdale |
| Brayden & Lachlan Gilmore | Oberon, NSW | 750 | Premier |
| Catherine & Allan Gadsby | Euchareena, NSW | 751 | Cordale |
| Mudgee High School | Mudgee, NSW | 752 | Mudgee High |
| Martin & Cheryl Oppenheimer | Walcha, NSW | 753 | Petali |



From the Secretary

2010 National Conference

Thank you to those who attended the 2010 National Conference held in Ballarat during February.

The Association extends its thanks to Craig and Rosalie Mitchell, Tony and Gwenda Gilpin, Ian and Denise Porter, and Steve and Debbie Milne for the enormous amount of time and effort spent organizing such a successful Conference for its members.

Registrations and Transfers

The increased "traffic" on WebManager over the last few weeks has been pleasing. Thank you to those who have completed registrations and transfers promptly.

It would be appreciated if all outstanding registration and transfers are completed as soon as possible. This will assist with the Annual Return process, particularly for those who have purchased rams in the last 12 months.

Annual Returns

Your 2010 Annual Return paperwork and membership subscription invoice is included with this Newsletter. Please be reminded that the due date for Annual Returns is 30th April.

It is important to note that late fees will apply for all Annual Returns received after 15th May.

I take this opportunity to advise that I will be on leave for two weeks from 23rd April until 10th May.

Should you require assistance in completing your Annual Return during this time, please contact Sue Piggott at BizBoost on (08) 8572 4470.

*Regards,
Nikki*



Nikki Pfeiffer and Sue Piggott

Member News



Wedding

Peter Angus & Jane McBride

Peter Angus and Jane McBride were married in Robe, South Australia, on 24th October 2009.

Peter runs Maroola White Suffolk stud at Mallala. He was the former AWSA promotions officer and worked at the secretariat several years ago.

The ceremony was held in the Robe Institute followed by a reception in a marquee at the Robe Bowling Club. Sisters Casey Work and Nikki Pfeiffer (Tipton White Suffolk stud) sang and played the keyboard during the ceremony.

Jane is the daughter of Keith and Vicky McBride, Newry, Kingston SE and Peter is the son of Paul and Catherine Angus, Mallala.

They honeymooned in Byron Bay.

Birth

Sophie Dianne

Congratulations to Tamesha Gardner and Andrew Greenup, of "Ida Vale" stud in Kojonup WA, on the birth of their daughter Sophie Dianne who decided to arrive one month early. She was born on 11th Feb and weighed in at 5lb 5oz. All doing well.



National Conference - Thanks to Our Sponsors

It was a pleasure to be involved in the recent National White Suffolk Conference at Ballarat. From a personal perspective, I found the quality of the information exchanged with those present from the special guests and speakers to be of an exceptionally high standard and even beyond our expectations. I hope other members also found it beneficial.

When Victorian members committed to the challenge of staging this conference, we formed a special sub committee specifically for this purpose. With advice and co-operation from the Association's management committee and other members we achieved our objectives.

However, it would not have been the success it was without the fantastic support we received from many other quarters as well. Thankyou to the members who supplied stock and/or other material support needed during the conference.

I extend special thanks to all our sponsors (listed right), who almost without exception very willingly came on board and were proud to be associated with such a vibrant and progressive breed in a buoyant industry. The Victorian breeders' directory that was launched at the conference would not have been possible without the sponsors' support. Thank you to all the Victorian breeders who supplied information on their enterprise as requested and in time for publication. For very little effort, the potential for you to directly gain has been greatly increased.

The venue proved to be ideal and I extend thanks to 'The Welcome Stranger Holiday Park' staff for their co-operation, efficiency and most of all, their hospitality. No doubt many members' eyes have been opened to this form of holiday accommodation on a more regular basis.

As Chair of the organising committee I greatly appreciate the amount of work done by my fellow committee members. Thus, I say thank you very much indeed to the other members of that committee; Ian & Denise Porter, Tony and Gwenda Gilpin, Steve and Debbie Milne, and my very tolerant wife Rosalie.

Finally I extend thanks to all White Suffolk members who attended the conference. No matter how much work we do to bring it all together, without your active participation it would all be for naught!

Craig Mitchell

*Chair of the Ballarat National White Suffolk Conference -
Organising Committee*



*The 'Pfizer' team being awarded the winner's trophy for our Mini Golf Championship.
Each team was captained by one of our sponsors.*

Pictured here from left: Steve Milne, the Pfizer 'Captains' Kirsty Thomson, Deb Colins and Craig Mitchell





CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Q Lamb



**PETER TREFORT,
Q LAMB, NARROGIN, WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

Why Q Lamb?

Market research showed consumers felt lamb was:

- Fatty
- Inconsistent
- Too full of bone
- Too seasonal

=> Serious need for improvement

Q Lamb developed their own branded lamb, to meet consumer demand. Started with a butcher shop on their own farm then built an abattoir and now process up to 1500 lambs a day for the export market.

Their focus

DO WHAT THE CUSTOMER WANTS

eg. small cuts for easy cooking and consumption.

And:

IF YOU DON'T GET FEEDBACK, HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE?

- Feedback to his producers is imperative. Is available on his website by 6pm on the day of slaughter.
- All his producers must visit the meatworks to see and understand the operation.

Feedback to Producers

All stock are graded using Aus-Meat Sheep Probe

Premium Paid for
Score 2 to Low Score 3
Score 6 to 13mm Fat
Depth
at the GR site.
(18 to 25 kg)



Stock are paid-for according to weight and fat result.

You Cannot Do
Today's Business
With Yesterday's Methods
And Be Profitable Tomorrow.

They are after

- 20-24 kg lambs – 11-13mm fat is ideal.
- perfect for efficient processing on a consistent and quality product.
- pH is important for the right pink colour
- have found in WA that it costs too much to produce a heavier lamb and not worth the extra income you may get for them.
- Send lambs to market as soon as they reach target weight – after that it is costing you to feed them unnecessarily
- Use all the right practices to have rams ready to work and ewes ready to be effective mothers

HOW CAN YOU IMPROVE IF YOU DON'T GET THE INFORMATION YOU NEED?!



Conclusions:

- Quality is not an option – it's essential
- Consumers must be satisfied every time they purchase.
- Trace back and feedback systems ensure you meet consumer's needs.
- Communication and trust are vital.
- Change... is not compulsory.....nor is survival.

Lamb – Domestic Outlook



ANDREW HAY
NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MANAGER
COLES SUPERMARKETS

SNAPSHOT - THE AUSTRALIAN LAMB INDUSTRY

Australia is one of the world's leading lamb producers and the second largest exporter of lamb.

In 2007 Australia produced 440kt of lamb with N.S.W and Vic. accounting for around two thirds of this.

Australia exported 45% of lamb produced in 2007, valued in excess of \$800 million.

The domestic market, however, remains the most important sector of the lamb industry utilising approx 55% of all lamb produced. Most (89%) is sold through retail outlets and 11% is sold through the food service sector.

Compare this to NZ which only retains approx 10% of all lambs produced for domestic consumption

The average weight of lambs has increased from 17kg in 1985 to 20.7kg in 2007 (hscw)

Sheep numbers have declined from approx 175 million in 1994 to approx 70 million in 2009. This is due to ongoing droughts, changing farm utilisation and strong demand for Australian Sheepmeats in export markets.

There has been a concerted effort to improve the eating quality of lamb sold domestically and a Meat Standards Australia scheme for sheep meat has been introduced.

MLA figures show Australians increased their annual lamb consumption to 11kg / hd last year, up from 10.2kg in 2006.

WHAT COLES BUYERS ARE LOOKING FOR:

- Consistent quality
- Are sourcing 18-24kg lambs - find that lambs from feedlots provide more consistency. Vitamin E in the ration to maintain good meat colour
- Very happy to source from producers accredited in MSA (Meat Standards Australia) program
- Predominantly 2nd cross lambs
- In spring need as many 16-22kg lambs as they can get - the consumer is after smaller cuts of meat

The Genetic Way Forward



DR ALEX BALL
MANAGER OF SHEEP &
LAMB R&D FOR MLA

NOW WHAT IS IT WE ARE AIMING FOR?

Breeding the right lamb every time:

- Put them on the ground - NLB, NLW, SC
- Make sure they live - BWT, LE, GL, Lamb Sur, WEC
- Make them grow - WWT, MWWT, PWT
- Get the carcass right and high yields - PFAT, PEMD, Dr% SLY% Ph Colour
- Make sure they eat OK - IMF, Shear Force, FE, ZN, Omega 3

HOW CAN WE GET THERE?

Sheep CRC Information Nucleus Flock

WHERE WE ARE TODAY:

- Have approximately 280 rams with progeny with full phenotype, wool and carcass measurements
- Have data from 2007 and 2008 for eating quality on 190 sires
- In 2010 will be sampling 1000 lambs for loin and topside consumer eating quality
- What the relationship is between traits that we measure in a lab and what people think?

WITHOUT THE SHEEP CRC

- The Head In The Sand Approach

WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE WE WOULD BE.....

- Increasing birth weight and reducing lambing ease
- Getting sheep bigger
- Reducing fat and reducing fitness
- Reducing IMF and producing dryer meats
- Increasing shear force and reducing tenderness
- Reducing eating quality
- Reducing Fe and Zn

So with this knowledge
we must make change



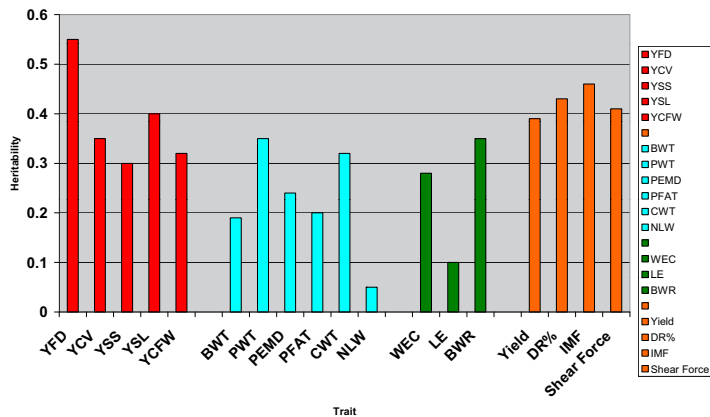
WHAT ELSE IS NEW FROM THE SHEEP CRC

- Lambing Ease (LE)
- Muscle, Worms (WEC) and Staple Strength (SS)
- Dressing % (DR%), intramuscular fat (IMF) and shear force
- A little on wool

HERITABILITY OF TRAITS IMPORTANT TO THE SHEEP INDUSTRY

Heritability of Meat and Wool Traits

Heritability of Traits important to the Sheep Industry



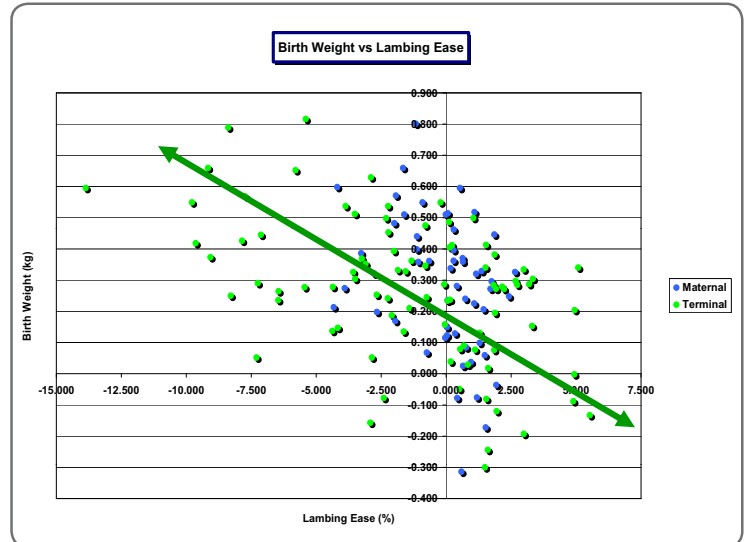
THE KEY IS THE CORRELATIONS

- Most traits are likely to be correlated to other traits...rare that they are not
- We are changing the "non visible" traits every time we make selections
- It is really nice to find favourable ones
- It is not nice to find unfavourable ones
- In most cases the correlations are manageable

LAMBING EASE

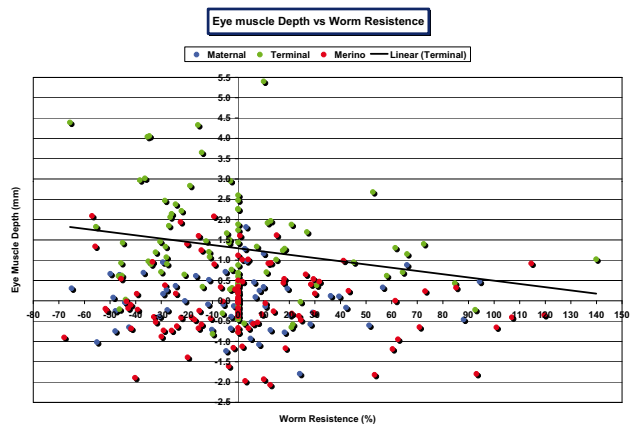
- You can lose both the ewe and the lamb and that is one of the major drivers of lost profit
- Dystocia is one of the causes of difficult births, i.e. lamb is too big for pelvic area
- Birth Weight correlated with lambing ease. However, there are other significant factors such as shape of shoulders, pelvic shape/area and lambing "will".
- Low heritability, therefore hard to make progress without

ASBV's EXAMPLES OF CORRELATIONS:



Birth Weight vs Lambing Ease

Worms and Meat



Take Home Message:

The Carcase+ index as a selection tool is now leading us in the wrong direction – leaner animals that are producing dryer tougher meat and birth weights that are increasing the risk of lambing problems. The Lamb2020 index addresses these problems and we should as a breed be promoting this index instead.

>> see also article page 14

LAMBPLAN Update

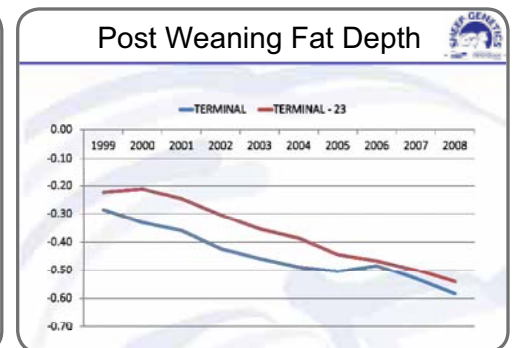
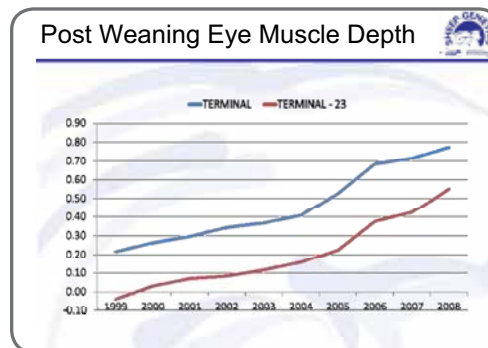
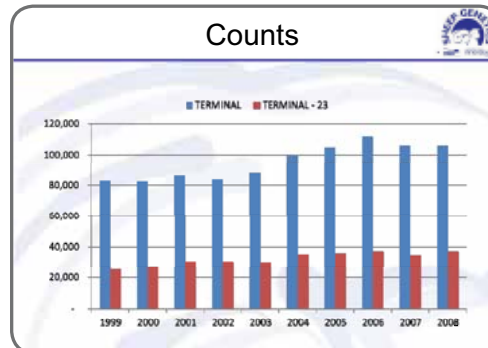


SAM GILL
MANAGER
SHEEP GENETICS



HAMISH CHANDLER
LAMBPLAN
PROJECT OFFICER

TRENDS – WHITE SUFFOLK VS TERMINALS



Mating Records

Documentation regarding mating close to being released
Major things to record at mating are:

- Mating group
- Ewe
- Sire
- Conception Method
- Date (ie AI date or ram in date)

At Pregnancy scanning:

- Scanning Date
- Lambs Scanned

Lambled and Lost

- Marking date
- Lamb Management Group
- Lambled & Lost

New Traits

Lambing Ease and Gestation Length ASBVs launched in November.

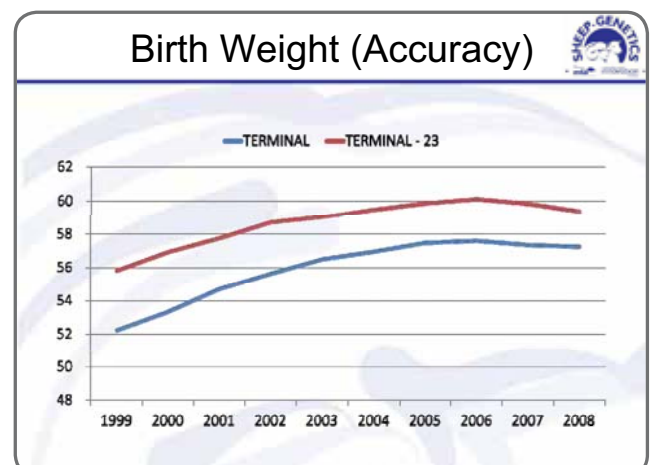
New traits under development

- Intra-muscular fat
- Wool characteristics
- Dag & Colour

Lambing Ease

- Sheep Genetics produces two Lambing Ease ASBVs, Lambing Ease Direct (LE DIR) and Lambing Ease Daughters (LE DTR).
- LE DIR expresses how easily a sire's progeny are born.
- LE DTR expresses how easily a sire's daughters have lambs.
- The ASBVs are expressed as differences in the percentages of unassisted lambings.
- A higher value indicates lambs will be born more easily.

Birth Weight





Birth Weight

WS trending higher than the Terminal average for BWT

Need to watch that birth weights don't get too high – will have direct influence on Lambing Ease!
 Carcase + index was introduced 10 years ago to reduce the incidence of over-fat animals
 C+ has over-performed in increasing growth and decreasing fat, but under-performed in increasing muscle. So the new Lamb 2020 index has been introduced and is being strongly promoted.

New trait: Gestation Length

- Gestation Length (GL) is the period between conception and the subsequent lamb being born.
- A shorter GL is generally associated with lighter birth weights and improved lambing ease. however we don't want to get too short?
- GL ASBVs provide an estimate of the genetic differences between animals gestation lengths in days.
- A lower or more negative value indicates a shorter GL.

Trait Leaders Updates

- Lamb 2020 will be replacing Carcase Plus in the trait leaders list as part of the phase out of Carcase Plus
- Trait leaders will no longer be reported for the following traits
 - Fat Depth
 - Birth Weight
 - Gestation Length

These traits are all traits that should be optimised and not trending further in one direction.

Lamb 2020 Index

- Terminal breeds trends with Carcase Plus
 - over-performed in increasing growth and reducing fat
 - under-performed in improving muscle.
- Lamb 2020 offers a more balanced approach with a larger range of traits being incorporated.
 - Slows gain in Birth Weight
 - Brings selection for growth forward to include Weaning Weight
 - Reduces emphasis on decreasing fat
 - Introduces selection pressure for Worm Egg Count

>> SEE ALSO ARTICLE PAGE 14

New Maternal \$ Index

- A new Maternal \$ Index has been introduced
 - Replaces existing breed specific Maternal Indexes e.g. Border \$ Index
 - Brings the Maternal Indexes in line with Lamb2020
- More balanced approach with a large range of traits being incorporated.
 - Maintains Birth Weight
 - Selection for growth now includes Weaning Weight
 - Maintains instead of decreasing fat
 - Now includes Worm Egg Count

Other new indexes

SIMILAR \$ INDEXES TO BE RELEASED;

Dual Purpose (DP) –

- higher emphasis on increasing Greasy Fleece Weight
- small emphasis on reducing Micron

Self Replacing Carcase (SRC)

- no selection pressure on wool traits.
- Suitable for Dorpers, Wiltipolls etc
- Maintain fat
- Reduce WEC
- Maintain birthweight

Index Accuracies

Index accuracies are a new development for Sheep Genetics

- Released in February 2010 in both LAMBPLAN and MERINOSELECT.

Presented on the same 0 – 100 % scale as accuracies for ASBV's

Higher values represent greater accuracy.

Minimum threshold required for reporting of indexes

An index with high accuracy is a more reliable indication of an animal's true genetic merit for that breeding objective.

Index accuracies are influenced by several factors:

The accuracy of ASBV's of traits in the index:

- animals with accurate ASBV's will also have accurate index values.

The relative emphasis of traits in the index:

- the more important a trait is in the index, the more influence it will have on the accuracy of the index.

Whether or not all traits in the index are measured:

- if a sire has no progeny measured for an important trait, the index accuracy will be reduced even if ASBV's for other traits might be highly accurate.

Take Home Message.....

LAMB 2020 Index

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE PRIME LAMB INDUSTRY ADOPT THE LAMB2020 INDEX?

The correlations for LMY (lean meat yield) and Intramuscular Fat as well as selecting your genetics using Carcase Plus are guiding our lamb industry to an animal that will not have moist, tender quality lean meat.

BIRTH WEIGHT

Higher and very low birth weights are having a negative effect on the number of lambs that are surviving birth (birth weight ASBV's of greater than 0.6 are giving more lamb losses and lambs that are too small, -0.2, are having less lamb survival). The NLW (number of lambs weaned) is still the largest profit driver in most sheep businesses in Australia.

FAT

Selecting fat ASBV's that are leaner than -1.0 will have a detrimental effect on the ability of our ewes to recover after lambing and get in lamb or respond after a tough period. This is called FITNESS by sheep genetics and this again will have a negative effect on NLW and profits. It is important that the animals that have fat ASBV's greater than +0.2 are only used in environments that require more fat cover or we will produce a product that is unhealthy and unprofitable.

High growth combined with positive muscle ASBV's are

very important when increased together as they will lower the PH of the meat and with increased carcase weights be one of your largest profit drivers.

The change in using breeding selection from Carcase Plus to LAMB2020 index is being guided by results that have been achieved by work done by Sheep Genetics and CRC which is telling researchers that our sheep industry has made outstanding changes to increase growth and produce a leaner carcase BUT we need to change our breeding direction slightly. As outlined in the previous paragraph Carcase Plus is selecting for an animal that has too much emphasis placed on reducing fat which LAMB2020 will correct. Sheep that are leaner than -0.6 for fat will be penalised on this index.

WEC (worm egg counts) are another very important selection ASBV that has been included into the LAMB2020 index which makes it more in tune with where our breeding goals and management will be in the future.

LAMB2020 index will help identify lambs that grow faster at an earlier age with good worm resistance and have the right balance of fat and muscle for the development of the ultimate PRIME LAMB.

The Theory of Intelligence

'Well you see, Ferg it's like this . . . A herd of buffalo can only move as fast as the slowest buffalo. And when the herd is hunted, it is the slowest and weakest ones at the back that are killed first. This natural selection is good for the herd as a whole, because the general speed and health of the whole group keeps improving by the regular killing of the weakest members.

In much the same way, the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. Now, as we know, excessive intake of alcohol kills brain cells. But naturally, it attacks the slowest and weakest brain cells first. In this way, regular consumption of beer eliminates the weaker brain cells, making the brain a faster and more efficient machine. And that, Ferg, is why you always feel smarter after a few beers!



Were they discussing or maybe even testing this theory at the AWSA Conference Dinner? - from left Lachy Day, Anthony Ferguson, Andrew Frick and Martin Harvey



CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Industry Efficiency – Ewe and Lamb Performance

PRESENTED BY



DR JASON TROMPF
LAMB & BEEF PRODUCER NE VIC
HONORARY RESEARCH FELLOW WITH
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL
SCIENCES AT LATROBE UNIVERSITY.

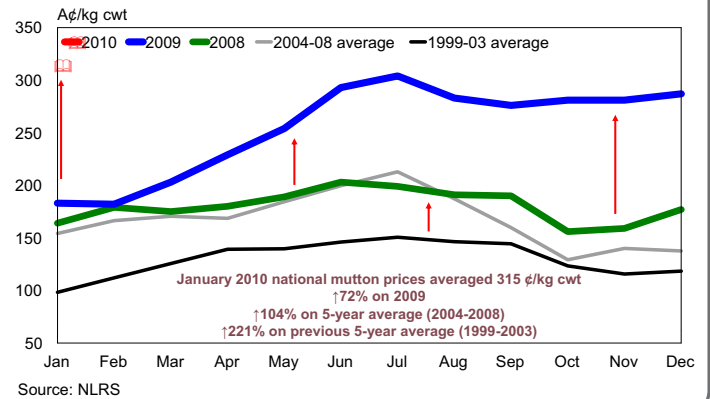
AND



NICK LINDEN
RESEARCH SCIENTIST
VICTORIAN DPI, BASED AT THE
RUTHERGLEN RESEARCH CENTRE.

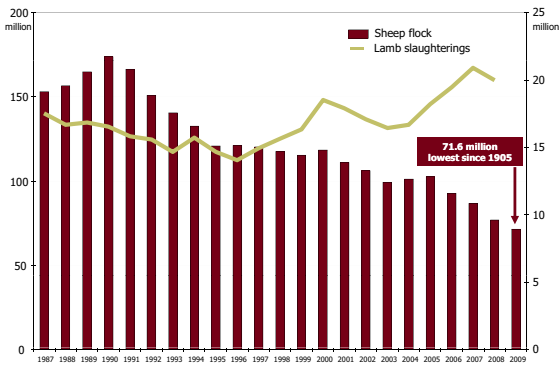
At the same time national average sheep yard sale prices are on the increase

National average sheep saleyard prices

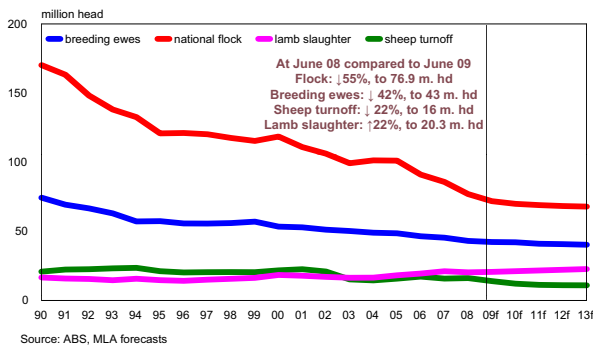


The Sheep Industry in Australia today:
 A major cause for concern is the declining flock number and rising lamb slaughter

A sustainable industry?



National and breeding ewe flock decline



How lamb has changed:

Lamb industry 1989

- Carcase price \$1.50 per kg
- Average carcase weight 17.75 kg
- 15% exported

Pressure has lead to change

- Climatic variations
- Welfare friendly systems
- Increased demand on resources
- Labour – changing workforce

So it's all about EFFICIENCY!!

You need to

- Know your market
- Know your ewes & lambs
- Know what is the right lamb and the right ewe!

What efficiency looks like:

- High performance
- Breeding (B1, cycle, conceive, lamb and wean)
- Growth and meat yield
- But also low input
- Physical and non physical
- Nutritional requirements, growth and maintenance
- Labour ie time – drenching, crutching, flies, chemical
- Feeding the right lambs at the right time
- Running the right ewes in the right place with the right management – life time ewe management

continued over.....

Industry Efficiency – Ewe and Lamb Performance

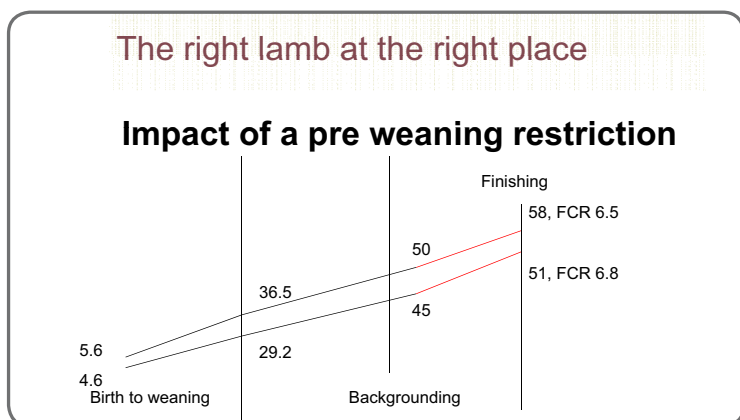
The Right Lambs

RESEARCH HAS SHOWN:

- Most efficient lamb put on 1kg live weight for every 2.5 kg of feed consumed -Cost to finish was ~ \$10.00
- Least efficient lamb ate 14kg of feed, for every 1kg of live weight gain -Cost to finish was ~ \$65.00 (in feed costs alone)
- Variation in sire groups for Feed Conversion Ratio(FCR) ranged from 3.9:1 to 10:1

PRE-WEANING GROWTH IS VERY IMPORTANT

- The right lamb at the right place



- A check during this critical stage and they never seem to catch up - maiden ewes are in particular need of good nutrition at this time.
- Growth rates of high performance lambs is suppressed by poor nutrition – ie. nutrition impacts on LWG (liveweight gain) per unit growth ASBV.
- Expression of genetic potential for growth in response to nutrition is greatest pre weaning (Hegarty, 2006)
- Post weaning feed restriction can be compensated for later, a pre-weaning one can't be compensated for.
- Need for pre weaning growth to optimise the investment in high performance genes - hence need for ewes to be 'right to go'
- Mature ewes on low nutrition lost 4 times more live weight than ewes on high nutrition.
- Maiden ewes, low nutrition group lost 8 times more LW than the high nutrition group. (Hegarty, NSW)

In Summary: THE RIGHT LAMB:

- Good growth and carcass + values
- 'Mid' aged lambs have been most efficient during finishing (~ 28 wks)
- Lambs light at weaning aren't 'wrong'
- likely to be always lighter (longer on feed)
- be wary of feeding as older, heavier lambs

The Right Ewes

- "Hogget lambing used to be a bonus, now it's expected with people looking for twins" - NZ research report
- Litter size, ewe longevity, maternal lamb survival, and maternal weaning weight are seen as being important drivers of ewe efficiency (Sise et al 2009)
- Triplet survival !!!
- Maternal Central Progeny Test trial has shown that the crossbred ewe progeny of some maternal sires consume up to 15% less feed for maintenance than similar weight ewes by other sires. Neal Fogarty

Keeping Ewes right

- Dry sheep tend to take lower priority, but don't miss out on next years lamb crop.
- Nutritional restrictions to a lamb during pregnancy will never be compensated for. Guaranteed poor performers.
- Cows restricted during pregnancy; -10 kg birth, -25 kg wean and -55 kg at slaughter
- Pre-weaning growth check also never fully compensated for (-70 kg & -40 kg).
- Pays to monitor dry ewes, condition score them 8 wks before joining.

| LW @ JOINING (KG) | 45 | 50 | 55 | 60 |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| % LAMBS BORN | 118 | 126 | 134 | 142 |

PREGNANCY SCANNING

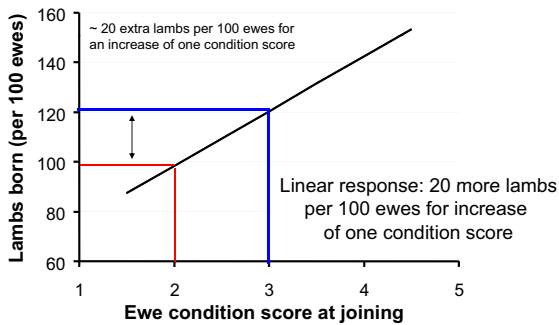
- in ewes can increase efficiency as long as you do something with the information
- targeted allocation of nutrition to the right ewe at the right time has a big impact on the bottom line
- improved feed allocation for those bearing twins
- reduce mob size of ewes with twins to increase lambing survival rate
- Benefits of improved feed allocation following scanning
- Improved lamb survival
- Reduced ewe mortality
- More even lines of lambs
- Higher lambing % in subsequent years

CONDITION SCORING

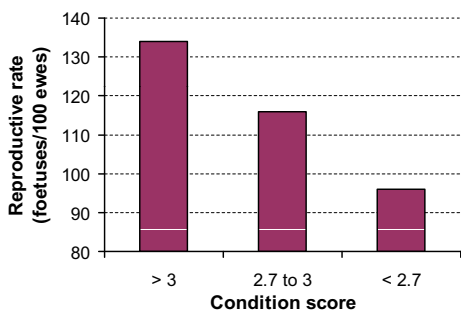
- Number of lambs born is determined by ewe condition score at joining. Need to understand your flocks reproductive rate in response to Condition Score at joining.
- Managing ewe condition score throughout pregnancy and at the point of lambing can also have a big impact on lamb survival rate >>> see slides following



Number of lambs born is determined by ewe condition score at joining

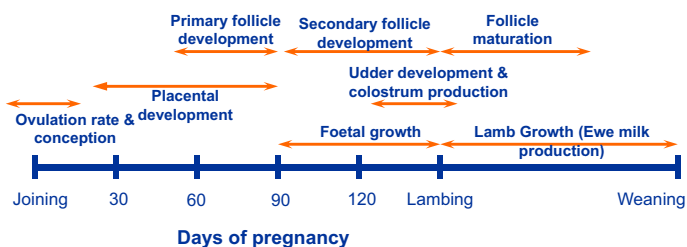


Case study – scanning performance of ewes in different condition at joining



EWE MANAGEMENT CAN EFFECT THE DEVELOPING LAMB

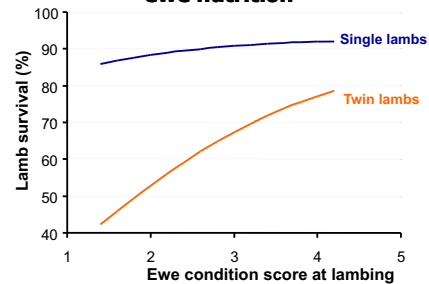
The developing lamb: The processes ewe management can effect



For more information
 "Lifetime Ewe Management"
 A program for sheep producers
 Phone- Jason Trompf 0408386896

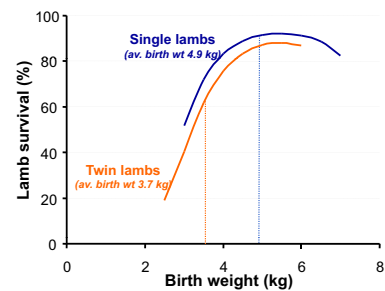
PROGENY SURVIVAL INCREASES WITH IMPROVED EWE NUTRITION

Progeny survival increases with improved ewe nutrition



LAMB BIRTH WEIGHT DRIVES SURVIVAL

Lamb birth weight drives survival



A lambing paddock should provide:

- Adequate feed and water
- Minimal disturbance
- Shelter
- Freedom from predators
- Privacy
- Maximum mob size recommendations

Mob size recommendations

| Mob type | Maximum recommended number/mob |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Twin bearing mature ewes | 200 |
| Single bearing mature ewes | 400 |
| Single bearing maiden ewes | 300 |

In Summary: THE RIGHT EWE:

- Fertile-3% scanned in lamb per kg ewe body weight in condition score 3 (eg 60kg ewe should scan in lamb 180%)
- Efficient-kg lamb produced per kg ewe (wean 100% of ewe weight at 14 wks)
- Resilient- able to cope with stresses
- Low WEC, moderate Fat, Early maturity
- Growing seasons are shorter

Data Capture & Management Options



GEOFF ROSS
TRU TEST
www.trutest.com.au

86908

MEMORISE THIS TAG
THEN GO TO PAGE 29 AND PICK THE IDENTICAL ONE!

The Electronic Tag

- \$1.00 in Victoria (NLIS Approved subsidised price) Approximately \$2.50 interstate (non – NLIS approved tags)
- Alone it is no better than a standard 30c flock tag
- In conjunction with other tools it offers a vast array of opportunities
- Individualisation – no different to your standard stud tags/ systems
- Human error reduction – by yourself and others
- Increases/simplifies data collection and data management

Where We Are:

- Traceability of cattle is ever improving, but traceability of sheep is very poor
- DPI desire mandatory use of NLIS, however great producer resistance
- TAP alliance formed to identify key profit benefits from the use of NLIS on farm

TRIAL SITES SET UP WITH SUPPORT OF DPI,
MS&A, TRU-TEST, ALLFLEX, PRATTLEY TO TEST THE
BENEFITS:

- Feedlots (2)
- Prime Lamb enterprises (1)
- Dual Purpose merino flocks (4)
- Poll Dorset Stud – Derrynook (1)

Data collectors :

- Used to record weights and weight gain, plus detailed animal information
- Internal batteries reduces the need for cables in the yards
- IP67 water proof/shock proof
- Robust design to withstand heavy duty use in cattle yards

Weighing Cells:

- 600mm for use under platforms
- Thick leads, full sealed, water proof and are designed to be self-calibrating



Scanners:

- Stick readers designed for portability
- Record & display tag numbers
- Provide a scan count
- Panel readers designed for permanent installation and reduce required labour
- RFID readers must read all approved RFID tags and transfer data into all data collectors (Scales Indicators)





Uses (to date!)

- Stud data management
- Mating information – mating groups/dates/etc
- Pregnancy testing information – OVI4/OVI6 Tester and Panel
- Drafting singles/twins or lambing groups when you want to
- Lambing Info – Sire/Dam/DOB/Sex/Tag/Flight Distance/Born as/Raised as
- Pedigree matchmaker – matching ewes to lambs without tagging at birth
- Sire evaluation
- Dam evaluation – ranking/selecting ewes
- Fat depth/eye muscle area – link to sire/dam
- Indexes
- Carcass Feedback
- Live weight gain – affects of feed and other conditions in feedlots
- Individual which can be linked back to sire/dam
- Ultimate aim is to calculate dollar value benefits by adopting different practices, depending on your flock type.
- All information can be electronically forwarded on to Lambplan/clientele

The Future:

- Significant development in the last 2 years – significant developments to be made
- Victoria is the test case for Australia and the world
- Mandatory use of NLIS???? Probably
- Abattoirs – data feedback
- DNA
- Walk over weighing
- Remote selection/drafting
- Development of super data collectors and development of more on farm data management positions/contractors
- We have the equipment to do it – need to learn more about sheep psychology/habits/flow to make the job easier



A Breeders Perspective - using electronic tags



PAUL DOLLING
'URALBA' WHITE SUFFOLK STUD
CLEVE SA

About Their Enterprise:

- run 270 White Suffolk ewes, selling around 140 rams a year
- also have approx. 1100 commercial merino ewes mated to W.S.

Why Do We Use Electronic Tags:

- Time efficiency in the yards
- Time efficiency in the office
- More accurate recording
- Extra backup tag as insurance for tag losses
- Don't need to handle sheep to read the tag

Utilising Their Electronic Tags

Purchased an auto drafter, which allows us to draft sheep for:

- Weaning And Weight Recording
- Lambed ewes
- Mating and culling
- Sale day and cataloguing
- Preg scanning

Started With

- Bought Tru-test XR3000
- Bought portable wand
- Tags were scanned with the wand, weights were still recorded automatically, but needed to mark the sheep and then redraft
- Then later bought the sheep drafter



Their Standard Operation:

- Lamb gets flexi tag when born and recorded manually in lambing book
- Births are recorded manually into PW and my own database
- Electronic tag is put in the opposite ear at tailing and recorded against the flexi tag number into the XR3000
- DOB, WOB and Sire is then transferred (uploaded) from a spreadsheet into the XR3000

Weaning

- Draft using WOB information already in the XR3000
- All the lambs are run through the drafter and lambs that are old enough are drafted to a separate pen
- Weights are automatically recorded against the lambs number, even if not old enough to wean
- Download weaning weights straight from XR3000 into PW

Lambled Ewes

- I can draft the ewes that have already lambled away from the pregnant ones
- Need to upload Yes against the ewe numbers that have lambled.

Mating & Culling

- Use the portable wand to scan the ewes no. and enter sire or cull direct to XR3000 or to paper first.
- Finalise numbers in office
- Use auto drafter to draft the different mating sires entered

Pregnancy Scanning:

- Use portable wand to scan ewes no. into XR3000, then enter number of lambs scanned
- We use the drafter to draft the triplet ewes off prior to lambing
- Can use the information to draft into feeding groups



Benefits

- Can draft sheep alone
- Can easily draft sheep on different information
- Saves time in the office and in the yards
- Minimises human error – no reading and typing numbers
- Transportable – we use 2 sets of yards
- Less stress on sheep and handler
- Tags can be reused

Disadvantages

- Need power
- Sheep are not used to being handled
- Cost
- Need to be computer literate
- Tags sometimes don't read
- Can read sheep that have already been drafted
- Some ewes don't fit in drafter



WORKSHOP

The Process Of Classing

Presented by Lachy Day

Lachy Day manually classes over 200 ewe lambs each year. Although it can be time consuming, he believes the process is well worth it.

Conference attendees were given an insight into classing on the Day property, and their process of selecting rams and ewes for breeding.

Below are some tips and tools Lachy presented to assist your classing process:

- Have a method!
- Work through ewes systematically and comment on type, frame, body, legs. This information, along with figures, can then be used to find a suitable ram.
- Make sure you have plenty of room to handle and observe ewes. Feet are important!
- Ensure you look at the progeny – don't rely on figures.
- Focus on your clients – understand what traits they require and what you should be selecting for.
- Be prepared to be flexible – be aware of where the industry is going. You are never more important than your clients.
- Manual classing takes time, but the results are worth it.



TGRM - Total Genetic Resource Management



STEFAN SPIKER
ADVANCE LIVESTOCK SERVICES

The TGRM® Mate Selection Service can help you plan better matings to achieve your breeding goals by simultaneously integrating different types of genetic information into the mating decision.

You benefit by making better use of available information to target more genetic gain or lower inbreeding or both.

Save time and make better use of genetic resources.

Use the TGRM® Mating Service to:

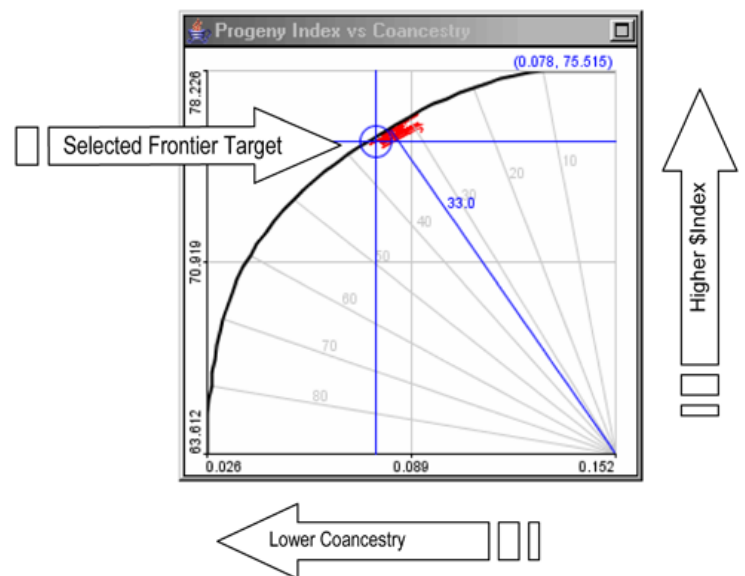
- Maximise genetic gain on your chosen index
- Manage coancestry and genetic diversity
- Minimise inbreeding in progeny of matings
- Avoid undesirable trait levels in progeny
- Increase the frequency of desirable major genes
- Optimise sire selections and allocations

Use TGRM® to explore the possibilities before spending money on finding the best sires, culling and selecting sires and dams, and committing to putting sires in paddocks for mating.

Use TGRM to balance genetic gain and coancestry...

TGRM® will calculate the highest genetic gain that is possible, and the corresponding level of coancestry, the lowest possible coancestry with the corresponding level of genetic gain, as well as a number of points in-between the two.

Connect up the points and you have the "frontier of genetic gain and coancestry".



For more information contact:

Advance Livestock Services

Email: als@ansoniac.com.au

Phone: +61-3-5573-3201 | Mobile: +61-427-733-201



CONFERENCE DINNER - GUEST SPEAKER

Sam Lays It On The Line

Australian Lamb Ambassador, 'Slammin' Sam Kekovich laid it all on the line last week when he was guest speaker at the concluding dinner of the National Australian White Suffolk Conference at Ballarat.

"Lamb is a wonderful and sexy product and it is a privilege to be able to peddle its benefits," he said.

"Success in this industry is about yield and the value you get from your product," he added to an audience of approximately 100 White Suffolk sheep breeders and industry representatives gathered to share ideas and gain new information on the lamb industry.

In typical Sam fashion, with plenty of wit and humour mixed with his key messages, he did express some sympathy for ambassadors who had to peddle rubbish products while he had the job of helping to promote the greatest food product there is; one that has helped define us as Australians and has brought greatly increased patriotism along with dramatically increased sales of lamb.

He outlined the huge success of the "Eat Lamb on Australia Day" campaigns; having had direct sales in excess of \$800 million and rapidly heading towards one billion dollars.

With plenty of free advice for those searching for what 'being an Australian' actually means, Sam said, "The greatest asset we have is who we are; our culture. It's helping a mate and having a go. It's not about making more money; it is being able to take the piss out of ourselves; our sense of humour – and eating lamb."

And there was also plenty of advice for those who are offended at such statements, or those misguided souls who think vegetarianism is the answer to everything. "Be Australian, not a wanker," Sam said.

The conference had a real commercial industry focus and a wonderful array of speakers and practical demonstrations to help improve lamb quality and the profitability of



Lambassador Sam Kekovich with one of the succulent lamb dishes served at the AWSA conference dinner at Ballarat.

producers. The Australian White Suffolk Association has always had open minded and flexible performance based objectives, keeping seedstock members very much in tune with commercial industry needs and trends.

This goes a long way towards explaining the huge and continuing growth in ram sales in just two and a half decades since the Association's foundation.

President Steve Milne thanked all speakers, helpers and members for attending and making the conference so successful, but reserved special thanks to the rest of the conference organising committee; these being Craig & Rosalie Mitchell, Ian & Denise Porter, Tony & Gwenda Gilpin and his wife Deb.

While the conference theme was very much along the lines of the English version of the three 'Ls', Look, Listen and Learn, as Lambassador, Sam Kekovich said, "The '3 Ls' in Australia mean Love, Laughter and Lamb!"

Ian Turner



"Lambassador" Sam Kekovich with AWSA Conference attendees at the conference dinner held at 'Pipers on the Lake, Ballarat'.



Life Membership

Andrew Michael

A special presentation of Life Membership of the Australian White Suffolk Association was bestowed upon Andrew Michael, "Leahcim" stud, Snowtown, SA for his dedication, efforts and achievements in enhancing the development and progress of the breed. Andrew is a foundation member of the AWSA and has been a strong advocate for the breed. The Leahcim stud has enjoyed great success in both the sale and show ring. He served on the committee for 17 years and was President in 1998 and 1999.

Andrew, who becomes the sixth life member of the Association, responded with emotion and humility, but took the opportunity to remind members to keep their commercial industry focus.



Allan Piggott presenting Andrew Michael (left) with his life membership award at the 2010 National WS Conference.

Canberra Show Results

JUDGE: Graham Wilson

Ram, Showing Milk Teeth – shorn and untrimmed

- 1st JE & KM Prentice Kurralea
 - 2nd Jason & Vicki Barker Timor
 - 3rd JE & KM Prentice Kurralea
- Highly Commended:
Yanco Agricultural High School

Pair Rams, Showing Milk Teeth, Shorn and untrimmed

- 1st JE & KM Prentice Kurralea
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Yanco Agricultural High School

Ram, showing milk teeth, born after 1st June

- 1st JE & KM Prentice Kurralea 386
- 2nd Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud
- 3rd JE & KM Prentice Kurralea
- 4th Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud
- 5th Yanco Agricultural High School

Ram, Two Tooth and over – shorn and untrimmed

- 1st Yanco Agricultural High School
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

CHAMPION RAM JE & KM Prentice Kurralea 378

RESERVE CHAMPION RAM JE & KM Prentice Kurralea 386

Ewe, Showing Milk Teeth – shorn and untrimmed

- 1st Yanco Agricultural High School
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

Pair Ewes, Showing Milk Teeth, Shorn and untrimmed

- 1st Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Yanco Agricultural High School

Ewe, showing milk teeth, born after 1st June

- 1st MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

Ewe, Two Tooth and over – shorn and untrimmed

- 1st Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

CHAMPION EWE

Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

RESERVE CHAMPION EWE

Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

Group, Consisting of 1 Ram and 2 Ewes

- 1st Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud
- 2nd MJ & DJ Long Pendarra
- 3rd Yanco Agricultural High School

SUPREME WHITE SUFFOLK

– Special award to celebrate 25 years since the formation of Australian White Suffolk Association

CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK RAM

- JE & KM Prentice Kurralea

CHAMPION WHITE SUFFOLK EWE

- Jarrod Alcorn Jarrabay White Suffolk Stud

SUPREME WHITE SUFFOLK

- JE & KM Prentice Kurralea

Electronic ID on agenda at Suffolk forum

By Emily Sobey

WHITE Suffolk breeders from across the country descended on Ballarat this week for the 21st annual Australian White Suffolk Association Conference.

They came from Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania.

The event was held at the Welcome Stranger Holiday Park, with hands-on activities at the Ballarat Showgrounds yesterday.

The event culminated in a dinner last night, featuring lamb ambassador Sam Kekovich.

Conference committee chairman Craig Mitchell said the event incorporated general interest information for breeders and the association's annual general meeting.

"We try to educate our members with the latest in technology and ways to improve their operation and they can pass on what they've learnt to their commercial clients," he said.

The conference featured a range of speakers providing everything from prime lamb updates to ewe and lamb efficiency and data capture and management options using electronic tags.

Andrew Hay from Coles spoke to members on Monday morning about the type of product the supermarket chain looked for and ways for producers to better market their product.

Breeder Paul Doling spoke to members about electronic tags, giving his own perspective on the technology after his experience using them.

Mr Mitchell said some breeders had been slow on the uptake of electronic tag technology, so having someone to educate members who had been using the technology in their production helped educate them.

"Using someone who has been using it for a while helps put it into practical terms for a farmer," he said.

Yesterday, members participated in demonstrations at the Ballarat Showgrounds, with leading breeders showing how they process their classes.

Western Australian



GOOD OIL: Breeder Paul Doling gives his perspective on using electronic tags at the annual White Suffolk conference on Monday.



LAMB CHAT: Phil Clothier of Lucindale, left, Peter Nalder from Wagin in WA and Trevor Troeth of Heywood talk about lamb production.



BREAK: Virginia from Bramholm

RIGHT: Ballarat lamb producer la Porter, left, enter with Nathan Scott Mike Stephens Associates.

participant Peter said the conference a good way to talk with the latest things were going on.

"You can talk back to your local buyers to track," he said.

AWSA in the Media

The National Conference gave us a fantastic opportunity to get the word out into our Regional and Rural Press about the activities of the Australian white Suffolk Association and to show how progressive and proactive we are in marketing our breed.

The marketing sub-committee of our Federal Council are busy planning a new look marketing campaign for the coming year - so keep a watch out!



Sheep conference

At a glance

What: Australian White Suffolk Association conference

Where: Exports to the Lake

When: February 16

Pictures: Daniel Hartley-Alan

CONFERENCE: Leigh Ellis, left, Paul Doling and John Rouch.



CONFERENCE: Andrew Fock, left, and Martin Harvey.



CONFERENCE: Finlay Macdonald, left, and Phil Clothier.



CONFERENCE: Andrew Heinrich, left, Tracie Heinrich, Peter Angus.



CONFERENCE: Tony Gall, left, Sam Kekovich and Jonet Gall.



CONFERENCE: Hamish Chandler, left, Saly Keen, Andrew Bouffler and Rob Keen.

www.thecourier.com.au

THE COURIER, Ballarat, Friday, February 19, 2010 - 21

Calendar of Events

MLA MEAT PROFIT DAY Melbourne Showgrounds Friday 30th April 2010

An ideal opportunity for anyone with an interest in the red meat industry to consult directly with international experts, industry leaders and researchers to gain first hand knowledge of the latest industry trends.

Further Information Available From
events@mla.com.au
www.mla.com.au/meatprofitday

LAMBEX 2010

A coming together of the entire Australian lamb industry LambEx is joint initiative hosted by our processors and live exporters with substantial support from MLA to bring Australia's sheep and lamb producers together in a manner that will define our future and demonstrate how our total professionalism and unity will deliver a prosperous and vibrant future for Australian lamb.

Wednesday 4th August 2010 to Friday 6th August 2010 Location: Burswood, Western Australia

Contact: Esther Price
Phone: 08 9525 9222
Email: esther@estherprice.com.au
or to go www.lambex.com.au

SHEEP CRC CONFERENCE 2010

Date: 20th and 21st October 2010
Venue: The Shores Function Complex,
Cnr Hamra & Military Road, West Beach, Adelaide

This will be the sheep industry's premier event for the year with a packed 2-day program covering all of the Sheep CRC's results to date.

The event targets producers, consultants, advisers, meat and wool specialists, industry service providers and contractors, scientists and extension staff and includes presentations from Australia's leading commercial and stud producers.

Presentations will provide the depth and understanding required by industry leaders, those who provide industry advice to others and producers aiming to stay at the cutting edge.

Genetics and the rapid advances in genomics will be a key thread across the topics of meat, wool and the sheep that produce them.

Information relating to the program will be available on the website closer to time – www.sheepcrc.org.au

PRECISION SHEEP MANAGEMENT WEBINARS

APRIL

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 12th (Monday) | Introduction to PSM |
| 14th (Wednesday) | Introduction to PSM |
| 15th (Thursday) | PSM Equipment (to be confirmed) |
| 16th (Friday) | Selection Assist |
| 19th (Monday) | Data Handling and Management |
| 20th (Tuesday) | Pedigree Matchmaker |
| 21st (Wednesday) | Walk-over-weighing |
| 23rd (Friday) | Weigh Matrix |
| 27th (Tuesday) | Merino vs Terminal Sire |
| 28th (Wednesday) | Wether Calculator |
| 29th (Thursday) | OFFM Calculator |
| 30th (Friday) | Pedigree Matrix |

MAY

4th (Tuesday)
Ram Value Calculator (software will be made available to those requesting it after completion of training)
For more information go to the Sheep CRC website
www.sheepcrc.org.au

SGA website update

New stage of website to be released in April-May
New features will include:

- Semen and Sale Catalogue
- Pen Card service
- Search results printable as PDF
- More secure login and data download
- Easier advanced search

www.sheepgenetics.org.au

Login to Lambplan Search

Sam Gill & Hamish Chandler pointed out to us at the conference, that if we logged into to Lambplan Search we would have access to extra features, such as the ability to save searches and export them to Excel.

More features will be added to this login area as time goes by. To login use your 6 digit breed code / flock number eg 230001 and then the password you use to access your data downloads from the Lambplan website.



Mid North Young Guns

“Making the Mix Work”

The Mid North Young Guns is a group of young sheep and lamb producers from the mid north region of South Australia, ranging from Two Wells in the south to Burra in the north, who have come together for personal development, networking, learning and sharing opportunities.

The group are “Making the Mix Work”; showing how sheep enterprises complement cropping programs and how the mix can work together. Over the past 14 months the group has undertaken workshops, tours and social networking activities.

Last year Steve Milne wrote a letter of support for the MNYG when the group applied for an Australia’s Farming Future Farm Ready Industry grant which was really appreciated.

The MNYG were successful and have received a grant of \$61 000 to be spent over 18 months to deliver 6 workshops and run 2 on farm-trials to enable group members to better adapt to the challenges of climate change.

Workshop topics include sustainable natural resource management and animal health requirements, sheep breeds and genetics and water planning and optimisations.

There will be pasture trials and grazing management trials on the properties of some of the group members.

There are three White Suffolk seedstock producers in the MNYG:

- Troy and Nette Fischer,
“Ashmore” Flock 99, Wasleys
- Luke Michael
“Leahcim Lam” Flock 475, Lochiel
- Peter Angus and Jane McBride,
“Maroola” Flock 281, Mallala

These breeders are promoting the White Suffolk breed with several of their commercial clients also being a part of the MNYG.

For more information about the group or if you are interested in attending workshops or visiting a trial site please contact one of the above breeders for further details.



Standing In A Medic Pasture Paddock At The "Paddock To Product" Workshop Held On 27-8-09. It Was Presented By Dr Colin Trengove Of Pro Ag Consulting And Covered Topics Relating To Soils, Pastures, Grazing And Nutrition.

CGU Insurance sponsorship of the AWSA

Each year the AWSA receives some much appreciated sponsorship from CGU insurance in South Australia . This is as a result of an arrangement which automatically generates a 10% rebate on all insurance policies that breeders take out directly with CGU in South Australia only. CGU Livestock Co-ordinator Geoff Marsland and other regional Account Managers work closely with many White Suffolk breeders and attend many stud ram sales throughout the state.

SO IF YOU ARE IN SA AND NEED ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR INSURANCE – GIVE GEOFF A CALL.

CGU offer a full range of insurance products including:

- Farm insurance
- Crop insurance
- Livestock insurance
- Domestic and commercial insurance
- and much more

Geoff Marsland
Ph 0418 807 084
Email: geoff.marsland@cgu.com.au

Beef Expo

Hamilton - Feb 2010



Alistair Day judged the pens of 3 ram lambs at Beef Expo in Hamilton Victoria on February 12th 2010. This was the second year that this competition has been run at Beef Expo and proved a popular and interesting competition. The competition was open to all breeds of terminal sires from registered flocks and had two sections, Trade and Export. This year entries were received from White Suffolk, Poll Dorset and Texel studs.

The competition was judged in two phases, objective measurement and visual assessment. Each phase could be awarded a maximum of 50 points. The LAMBPLAN Trade \$ index was used for the Trade section and the LAMBPLAN Export \$ index was used for the Export section. The visual assessment for each class was further broken down into points for structure, market suitability, wool and skin, evenness and breed type. Prior to entering the pen where visual assessment took place, each ram had his mouth and testicles inspected by the judge. Alistair kept the competitors and crowd entertained by announcing the points he had allotted each pen for each visual assessment section after he judged them and commenting on the reasons for his decisions.

Eight entries were received for the pen of 3 ram lambs to breed lambs suitable for the domestic market. This section was won with an entry from the Bruan Poll Dorset stud with South West Genetics (Texcels) second and Waratah White Suffolks third.

Six entries were received for the pen of 3 ram lambs to breed lambs suitable for the export market. An entry from Bruan Poll Dorsets also won this class, with Leenala Poll Dorsets second and Bruan third.



Results and points allocated in the table below.

Beef Expo 2009 Pen of 3 Ram Lambs - Lambplan TRADE

| Entry | Stud | Breed | Tag No. | | Trade Index | | Tag No. | | Trade Index | | Lambplan points score / 50 | Structure / 20 | Market Suitability / 15 | Evenness / 5 | Skin Quality / 5 | Breed Type / 5 | Visual points score / 50 | Total Lambplan + Visual / 50 | Place |
|-------|---------------------|---------------|---------|-------|-------------|-------|---------|-------|-------------|----|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|
| | | | Ram 1 | Ram 2 | Ram 3 | Ram 1 | Ram 2 | Ram 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Waratah | White Suffolk | 598 | 113.7 | 603 | 113.7 | 633 | 115.2 | 46.7 | 16 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 41.0 | 87.7 | 3 | | |
| 4 | Leenala | Poll Dorset | 21 | 114.2 | 22 | 114.7 | 143 | 114.6 | 47.2 | 14 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 37.0 | 84.2 | 5 | | |
| 6 | Bruan | Poll Dorset | 26 | 114.9 | 119 | 114.4 | 129 | 114 | 47.1 | 15 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 40.5 | 87.6 | 4 | | |
| 8 | Bruan | Poll Dorset | 116 | 114.4 | 315 | 114 | 359 | 114.3 | 46.8 | 18 | 14 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 43.0 | 89.8 | 1 | | |
| 9 | Warrawindi | Poll Dorset | 70 | 114.1 | 382 | 115.2 | 396 | 114.3 | 47.2 | 15 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 35.0 | 82.2 | 6 | | |
| 10 | Warrawindi | Poll Dorset | 45 | 111.3 | 216 | 113 | 522 | 115.7 | 45.4 | 14 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 35.0 | 80.4 | 7 | | |
| 12 | Claronden | Poll Dorset | 110 | 108.5 | 340 | 110.4 | 351 | 110.5 | 40.0 | 12 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 31.5 | 71.5 | 8 | | |
| 14 | South West Genetics | Texel | 10 | 113.8 | 28 | 117 | 37 | 113.9 | 47.8 | 16 | 13 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 41.0 | 88.8 | 2 | | |

Febfast Donations

Thank you

One of our White Suffolk members was abstaining from drinking alcohol at the recent conference for a good cause.

Pete Angus, Maroola, was taking part in Febfast, which challenges people to take a month off the booze during the shortest month of the year, and at the same time raise funds to help reduce alcohol and other drug related harms in young Australians.

Andrew Heinrich, Ella Matta, announced what Pete was doing at the conference dinner and asked for members to please show their support by donating money towards Febfast.

At the dinner \$537 was raised by the Australian White Suffolk Association which was a fantastic effort.

To date he has fundraised \$1485 for Febfast which places him as the tenth highest individual fundraiser Australia wide.

So Pete would like to pass on a big THANK YOU to those people who donated money.

Which was the tag number?

SEE PAGE 18 FOR THE QUESTION
GO TO PAGE 39 FOR THE ANSWER

86098

90868

86908

86068

Where are they now?

The Australian White Suffolk Association is celebrating its 25th year. So we thought we would catch up with our foundation members and see what they are up to now.

Many are still members and actively involved in the development of our breed. Some have passed the management of their studs on to the next generation and their stud breeding continues.

We have asked them.....

- Why did you decide to breed White Suffolks?
- What has been the highlights of being involved with the breed?
- What are you doing now?

Here is what they had to say:



Flock No 1 - "Ella Matta"

Founded by Peter Heinrich

Now managed by Andrew & Tracie Heinrich

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BREED WHITE SUFFOLKS?

It was my father who started our White Suffolk flock in 1979. His reason at the time was that he was receiving a discount for prices on his lamb skins due to black points. It wasn't until the downfall of the wool market in the late 80's that we decided to give the White Suffolk's a go on our property on Kangaroo Island. This led to the stud relocating from my parent's farm at Bute to our farm on Kangaroo Island in 1998 where it is now.

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE BREED?

I believe that the biggest highlight that I have seen since being involved with the breed, is how popular they have become. There are a lot of prime lamb breeders today that have a preference that favours a White Suffolk ram. For myself I have made some very good friendships in my time being involved with White Suffolk's and it has also given me some opportunities in life that I feel may not have happened if I was not involved with the breed - the main one is a Nuffield Scholarship in 2007. I got to travel looking at numerous livestock enterprises around the world and again made some wonderful friendships.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

We are currently working on a lot of different things in our breeding program. For some time now we have been trying to push things along as fast as possible with the use of measurement, this being Lambplan and using AI sire's with traits that we feel we need to improve on. In doing all this we are trying hard not to breed too extreme, just keeping a good balance on it.



Footnote:

See "Ella Matta" White Suffolks on MLA-TV - www.youtube.com/mlafeedbackTV then click on "Sheep genetics: Wiping out worms (episode 9)"

Flock No 2 - "Langley Heights" Barry Lang

Twenty five years in the White Suffolk breed has passed very quickly. Much progress has been made and still more to go.

Here at Langley Heights (Oberon NSW) we are experiencing one of the best summer/autumn breaks we have had in many years. Our 2009 drop lambs are able to express their full genetic potential and worm resistance is being well tested.

At Langley Heights we join 450 White Suffolk ewes to White Suffolk's and a few to maternal sires.

We are members of the Super Whites young sire group. The linkages out of this group has helped the accuracy of our Lambplan figures. For the past five years we have been using TGRM for our joining. We have made excellent progress in growth and muscle in our sheep while keeping birth weights down. The 2020 index for sires is 114.5 and for dams is 109.66 and expected progeny mean is 112.06. We AI 120 ewes each year to selected sires and young sire program rams.

These days our focus is very much on satisfying commercial producers needs with attractive sheep that perform well in the paddock. Do-ability is a trait that is hard to measure but is an important factor for commercial success. If we sell stud rams or semen I see that as a bonus but not a priority.

The breed has progressed well over the past twenty five years. The next twenty five is the challenge. We need to capture the enthusiasm and vision that was displayed twenty five years ago and have a vision for the type of sheep we will need to be successful in the future. There is a great deal of technology that can assist the astute stud breeder, breed the type of sheep that we will need to satisfy an increasingly more discerning consumer.

Our family has grown up and begun to multiply. Jill and I have four girls all just about completed Uni, three married, two grand children and a third expected in a few weeks.



Barry & Jill Lang with their girls and husbands

Flock No 3 - "Renrut" Ian Turner

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BREED WHITE SUFFOLKS?

I think the answer as to why we decided to breed White Suffolks is summed up in the article from the history book – "a love for the virtues of the Suffolk breed combined with commercial reality and the success of Euan Roberts' experiment."

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE BREED?

The personal highlights from our involvement are also listed in that article and having been dispersed for several years, not much has changed there. The only updating is we no longer have a few for the kids, but through APS we are still involved in breeding and have imported 4 more rams from the USA, plus the first ever UK imports since the early 1950s. These Suffolk genetics are being incorporated into the White flock program we have there. However my biggest highlight is having been at those first meetings and contributing to the setting of groundwork that has seen this breed prosper and continue to see widespread commercial growth. I remember saying to members at one of those very early meetings that the development of the White Suffolk breed was the greatest thing to happen to Australia's prime lamb industry for decades as it suddenly made our dominant breed accountable and in order to maintain market share, it also had to improve its quality and commercial accountability. Our breed (White Suffolks) would simply live or die through its commercial acceptance. Those comments are just as relevant today as then. To see that growth and commercial relevance is very satisfying. Also because of our open flock appendix system, it allows us to continue to access the best genetics from anywhere



continued over.....

Ian Turner continued

to achieve further improvement. No other breed can do that (within its rules and stated claims). The benefits of Lambplan to the industry should never be underestimated and because of the open book policy our breed has been instrumental in providing the necessary links to make across flock analysis possible - a huge benefit to the industry.

The one regret I have is that the association made the move to relegate the Suffolk breed to the same appendix situation as any other breed.

Arguably this is just a personal opinion, but our defining creed was to whiten the Suffolk breed, so I'm not sure how we relegate our parent breed to the outhouse! We need those genetics on a regular basis to continue to make the breed as relevant as a total easy care and highly profitable breed as it ever was - we need that solid foundation on which to build our future expansion.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Most of you know that! I own a promotion and marketing company 'Superior Selections', based in Adelaide but with clients in many states. Also still involved in freelance journalism and a regular contributor to the Stock Journal.

Flock No 4 - "Yaridni" Ern & Rhyllis Siggers

Ern & Rhyllis Siggers started with a Suffolk stud due to the ease of lambing (over the Dorset), fertility hardiness and robust conformation.

Even with the show successes, Ern was troubled by negative reaction at the saleyards. After repeatedly being downgraded at prime lamb selling auctions, due to black fibres in the skins, Ern joined up with the Prime Lamb Genetic group and helped acquire the Hay University Flock. Stephen Siggers helped with the culling of less desirable sheep. The idea of a White Suffolk upholding all the attributes of a Suffolk, without the monetary disadvantages, greatly appealed to Ern.

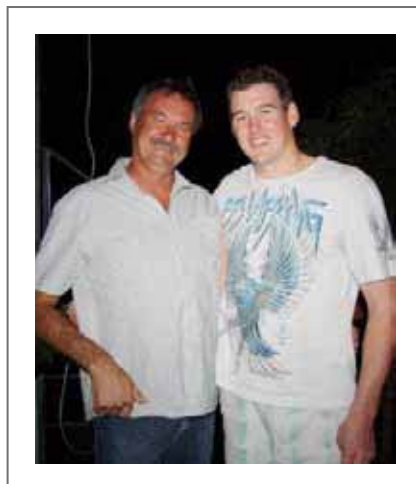
Sadly the stud was placed on a backburner after Ern's death in 1993 and is now only being brought up to speed by Stephen and the stud's main owner Richard (Erns Grandson).

Today they still have about 100 breeding ewes and sell about 30-40 flock rams each year as well as providing rams for their own commercial prime lamb enterprise. Being rewarded with good prices for their flock rams, they have been slowly increasing their flock size.

I'm sure Ern would be deeply satisfied with the continuing development and market share which the White Suffolk has achieved. A larger, leaner lamb produced for export and domestic markets – magnificent!



Ern & Rhyll Siggers



Stephen & Richard Siggers

Flock No 5 - "Anna Villa" Don & Anthony Ferguson



WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BREED WHITE SUFFOLKS?

The first seeds for evolving a White Suffolk were probably sown in the early 1960's when the late Mr Ern Sharad, of the Pinery Suffolk Stud, Arthurton, SA, purchased some Dorset ewes from us with the express purpose of breeding a white faced Suffolk. A few years later we also sold a number of our Poll Dorset ewes, to the University of New South Wales for what we later found to be experiments to breed White Suffolk sheep, primarily by crossing Poll Dorsets and Suffolks.

As we had both a Poll Dorset and Suffolk stud ourselves, we had the occasional mix up between the breeds, and about 1980 we gave two Suffolk/Poll Dorset cross rams to a flock ram client. He reported back that these rams produced exceptional lambs, and would we breed more of the same for him. That was the beginning really. I believe we were the first stud to sell White Suffolk flock rams at auction in 1986. They sold exceptionally well, convincing us to strive to produce a White Suffolk equal in quality to the Suffolk.

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE BREED?

- To see the progress the Breed has made in the past 25 years.
- Seeing so many of our flock ram clients receiving a "Pat on the Back" for their lambs in the Stock Journal. Also the number of clients whose consignment of lambs get a mention for their quality and price.
- For being rewarded at shows for our stock. ie. Champions & reserves at Adelaide Royal & Hamilton.
- For being rewarded at Stud & Flock ram sales for our stock.
- Seeing the number of repeat buyers coming back for more.
- Having sold Rams & Ewes & Semen to many leading Studs.

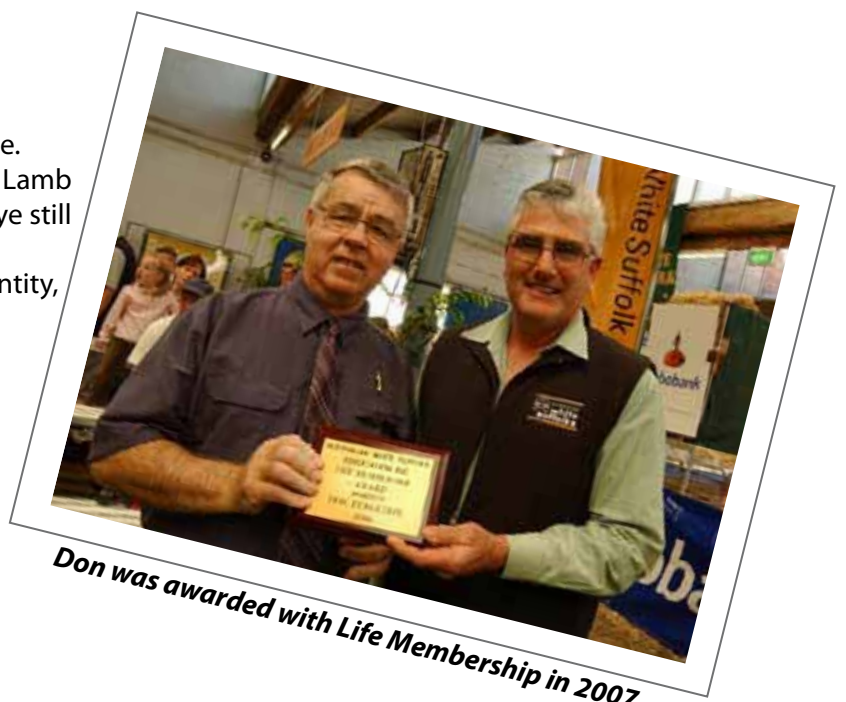
WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

Don spends most of his time at home, due to health, but spends time keeping the sheep books & recordings up to date. Does not do much physical work but tries to be useful.

His son Anthony now manages the sheep breeding enterprises of their farm business.

FUTURE AIMS

- To see the breed return more to the true Suffolk type.
- To see improvement in the way sheep are tested for Lamb Plan, to give fairer and more realistic figures. The eye still does a good job.
- To see an improvement in meat Quality and Quantity, particularly in the hind quarters area.



Don was awarded with Life Membership in 2007

Flock No 6 - "Elouera" John Treasure

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BREED WHITE SUFFOLKS?

I decided to Breed White Suffolks in 1984, when I felt that the Poll Dorset Breed was not heading in the right direction and I could see the need for an alternate Breed, as the Dorset Horn was becoming unpopular. The introduction of the White Suffolk Breed made the Poll Dorsets change their breeding aims, and they have followed the White Suffolk and are breeding a bigger, leaner sheep with cleaner heads. You need competition between Breeds to improve, and this has helped the Prime Lamb industry.

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE BREED?

The biggest highlight of the White Suffolk Breed for me, is the impact that my "Elouera" sheep, which were sold at our dispersal, have had for a lot of Breeders in the evolution of the Breed. I believe that the White Suffolk's shown now are of a very high standard, far exceeding what I thought the Breed could achieve in 25 years. My advice to new Breeders would be, to remind them that although facts and figures are needed in breeding, don't lose track of maintaining "White Suffolk Stud Qualities", in your animals. You need your sheep to retain stud correctness, and look like a White Suffolk.

As an outsider looking in at the Sheep industry, I would like to see more emphasise on the size of the "Lamb Chop," which is sold in the shops. I believe that they are too small. Pressure should be put on the other breeds, and the meat buyers to deliver lamb chops with an eye muscle which is a lot larger than presently sold, so that they can compete better with Pork and Beef.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

I fill in my time travelling, and get to see some White Suffolks most years, while keeping in touch with the Breed trends. My time is mostly taken up playing bowls. I bowl for the strong Tuncurry Club, with Rex Johnston as co-ordinator. I won the Club 4's recently which I skipped, beating a couple of the Clubs top Pennant teams. In 2008 I was a member of the Tuncurry 3's, who won the State Pennant Flag.

I wish the White Suffolk Breed all the best in the Future.



Flock No 7: Galaxy Park Geoff Gale

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BREED WHITE SUFFOLKS?

The reasons I breed White Suffolk sheep are basically the same now as in 1983 when we began a cross breeding program involving the two most popular prime lamb sires of the time, Suffolk and Poll Dorset.

The prime lamb industry at the time in my area was a by product of a wool enterprise for the majority of my clients... something they did with their 5 ½ year old ewes before they sold them the following year. Their main choices were a muffled faced Poll Dorset or a black pointed Suffolk and both had problems with the environment or the market signals at the time, the Poll Dorset with grass seed infestation around the eyes and the wool market was going gang busters with the reserve price scheme in full flow.

The end product now is a much needed compromise between the two breeds, a sheep which bred white terminal cross lambs with clean points that don't attract grass seeds in the face and eyes. As a breeder of Suffolk sheep of course it also made it easier to find the sheep in the dark.

continued over.....



... from page 18 and 33

86908

80698

Actually it was none of them!!!
Be wary of the upside down tag!!!

How to Calculate your National OJD Assurance Based Credit (ABC) points

There has been some confusion about 'ABC points' when filling out your Annual Return details

ABC stands for Assurance Based Credit and the way to calculate your points is laid out on the **following page**.

We encourage all studs to please include their ABC points with the Annual Return this year.



Photo courtesy of new members Tony & Janet Gall who we met at this year's National Conference. This is taken on their property at Uralla, NSW

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE HIGHLIGHTS OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE BREED?

First and foremost has been the success of the breed with the commercial breeder. The White Suffolk breed is now a force to be reckoned with in the terminal lamb area. Consistently producing quality lambs in all weight ranges of prime lamb. It is now the leading breed in some states and working towards the top in a number of others. From a personal viewpoint the winning of Champion and reserve champion at the inaugural showing in the Adelaide Royal probably rates at the top, winning champion ram at Adelaide and Melbourne royals in 1993 and the ram selling for a record \$24000 was not far behind. From a breeder of Suffolk sheep selling approx 40 to 50 rams a year to now conducting three ram sales a year and selling in excess of 250 rams a year has also been a satisfying achievement. To have rams rated as the highest performing sheep of the breed is an extremely satisfying feeling knowing that my contribution has increased the income of my ram breeding clients incrementally over those years.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

The Gale family are still breeding White Suffolk sheep with a different emphasis. The showing has made way for a performance based focus, with Lambplan being the vehicle to guide the selection of direction. Much progress has been made over the last 10 to 15 years with selection based on carcass merit and structural excellence being our goal. We now operate from three properties within SA with approx 300 kilometres between the outer extremities. We supply rams to clients with average rainfall from 150 mls of rain to properties receiving 600 mls of rain and higher. The same type of ram doesn't do the same job in both extremes. We supply rams to producers that market suckers from pastures to producers that supply the feeder market and the producers that grain feed on their own lambs. The scope in prime lamb breeding now covers lambs slaughtered at 16 kgs dressed weight to heavy weight lambs in the 30 plus kg trade and all the weights in between.

Category A: 

You **MUST** select **ONE** line in this category and record the appropriate credits in the box.

Category A provides information about your flock. If you do not know which [prevalence area](#) you are in, contact your veterinarian or local Animal Health Officer.

Category B: 

Only complete this section if your flock has been tested for OJD.

If your flock:

- is in the SheepMAP
- has had a PFC350 test in the last 12 months
- has an Abattoir 700 or 200 status; or
- is a tested low level infected flock

If **NO** flock testing has been done your score is zero for Category B.

Select **ONE** line only.

Category C: 

This section is only completed if the animals are from a flock or consignment that has been vaccinated in the approved manner.

If these sheep are not approved vaccinates then your score is zero for Category C.

Select **ONE** line only.

Category D: 

If your flock is infected and a risk assessment has been conducted on these sheep by a SheepMAP approved veterinarian and a certificate has been issued to confirm that they are 'low risk', then add one credit here.

If your flock is not infected add a zero.

For further information about terms and definitions used in the ABC Scheme please [click here](#)



HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR ABC SCORE

OJD ASSURANCE BASED CREDIT (ABC) POINTS

Select **only one line from each category** that is applicable to your sheep, **then add for total score**

CATEGORY A: Flock of origin – Location / Description

The Flock is located in:

| | Possible Credits | Credits for this consignment |
|---|------------------|------------------------------|
| A Low Prevalence Area and is not suspected or known to be infected | 4 | |
| A Medium Prevalence Area and is not suspected or known to be infected | 2 | |
| A High Prevalence Area and is not suspected or known to be infected | 0 | |
| Any Area and is suspected or known to be infected | 0 | |

CATEGORY B: OJD Testing

The Flock is:

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| In the SheepMAP and has had 3 negative sample tests | SheepMAP Status MN: Expiry date: / / | 4 | |
| In the SheepMAP and has had 2 negative sample tests | | 3 | |
| In the SheepMAP and has had 1 negative sample tests | | 2 | |
| Not in the SheepMAP but has had a negative PFC 350 test in the last 12 months | 2 | | |
| Not in the SheepMAP but is eligible for Abattoir 700 status | 2 | | |
| Not in the SheepMAP but is eligible for Abattoir 200 status | 1 | | |
| A test low level infected flock | 1 | | |
| None of the above | 0 | | |

CATEGORY C: OJD Vaccination

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| The flock is a second generation approved vaccinate flock | 4 | |
| The consignment sheep are approved vaccinates and were born when the whole flock were approved vaccinates | 3 | |
| The whole flock are approved vaccinates | 2 | |
| The consignment sheep are approved vaccinates | 1 | |
| None of the above | 0 | |

CATEGORY D: Consignment Sheep – Risk Assessment

The consignment sheep are:

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Sourced from a flock infected or suspected to be infected but are certified low-risk by a SheepMAP approved veterinarian | 1 | |
| None of the above | 0 | |

TOTAL ABC SCORE FOR THIS CONSIGNMENT OF SHEEP

(CATEGORY A + B + C + D) =

Maximum ABC score is 10

Wagin Woolerama Results

Judge: Murray Long

Ram under 1 year April/May drop

1. Ashbourne
2. Nalvin Park
3. Wesswood

Ram under 1 year June plus drop

1. Wesswood
2. Nalvin Park
3. Equal..Nalvin Pk and Sasimwa

Ram over 1 year

1. Brimfield

Pair of Rams under 1 year

1. Sasimwa
2. Brimfield
3. Wesswood

Ram under 1y objective measurement

1. Heddingham
2. Ashbourne
3. Wesswood

**CHAMPION RAM
RESERVE**

**WESSWOOD
NALVIN PARK**

Ewe under 1 year April/May drop

1. Nalvin Park
2. Nalvin Park
3. Equal...Brimfield and Wesswood

Ewe under 1 year June plus drop

1. Brimfield
2. Wesswood
3. Equal...Nalvin Park and Sasimwa

Ewe over 1 year

1. Brimfield
2. Wesswood
3. Equal..Brimfield and Heddingham

Pair of Ewes under 1y

1. Wesswood
2. Heddingham
3. Sasimwa

**CHAMPION EWES
RESERVE**

**NALVIN PARK
BRIMFIELD**

Group 1 Ram and 2 Ewes

1. Nalvin Park
2. Wesswood
3. Brimfield

Sires Progeny Group

1. Nalvin Park
2. Wesswood
3. Brimfield



Champion Ram lineup won by Julie & Malcolm Klante "Wesswood" stud



Champion Ewe (right) won by "Nalvin Park" and Reserve Champion won by "Brimfield" "Wesswood" stud



Reserve Champion Ram held by Tiffany Nalder of "Nalvin Park" with Judge Murray Long



Group of 1 Ram and 2 Ewes being judged