



# FlockProfileTest

## Product Information

### Background

The Flock Profile Test is suitable for any commercial Merino breeder and will provide you with an estimate of your flock's average genetic merit. The test was developed by researchers from Sheep CRC, AGBU, NSW DPI and Sheep Genetics.

### Product Description

Flock Profile estimates the average genetic merit of a Merino flock or drop which can be compared to the Sheep Genetics database. Flock Profile results deliver genomic breeding values for key Merino production traits, scaled to Australian Sheep Breeding Value (ASBV) level. This allows Merino breeders to track the genetic progress of their flock and make better ram buying and selection decisions. Refer to the Practical Wisdom case studies and video links on our website for further information.

Flock Profile has been scientifically validated with industry data, matching Flock Profile data to historical ram team information and measurements of performance taken in a wether trial. Pilot project participants have been overwhelmingly positive about the information they receive in progressing their commercial breeding program.

Flock Profile requires Merino producers to randomly select 20 sheep, in a single year drop. They can either use blood cards or tissue samples units (TSUs) to collect the samples. Results will be returned within 10-12 weeks from receipt of samples and payment at the SheepDNA office.

### Product use guidelines

#### 1. Buy a SheepDNA sampling kit

- Use the SheepDNA online ordering portal to buy SheepDNA sampling kits - blood cards or TSUs. TSUs are also available through Allflex Australia Pty Ltd - [www.allflex.com.au](http://www.allflex.com.au).

#### 2. Selecting sheep to sample

- There must not be any bias in selection of individuals for flock profiling;
- To select, count your entire mob and divide by 20 and select or draft off every animal that is the answer to (mob number)/20 . For example, if you have 1000 sheep in your drop.  $1000/20 = 50$  so draft off every 50th sheep (without fail), and then collect samples from the drafted group;
- You may only decide to sample wethers or ewes from the drop, but they need to be representative of the entire drop.

### 3. Taking DNA samples

- Please consult the sampling collection information sheet supplied with your Collection Kit or available at [www.sheepdna.com.au](http://www.sheepdna.com.au);
- Help desk: for any information on the correct sampling methods contact the SHEEPDNA office. It is essential to submit samples that they are correctly collected and clearly labelled.

### 4. Submitting samples

- Send your samples to the SHEEPDNA office along with a completed and signed SheepDNA testing form supplied with your sampling kit or available at [www.sheepdna.com.au](http://www.sheepdna.com.au);
- Upload the sheep data file (if available) via your SheepDNA account;
- Ensure you have placed an order for your tests through our online portal.

### 5. Sample confirmation & test payment

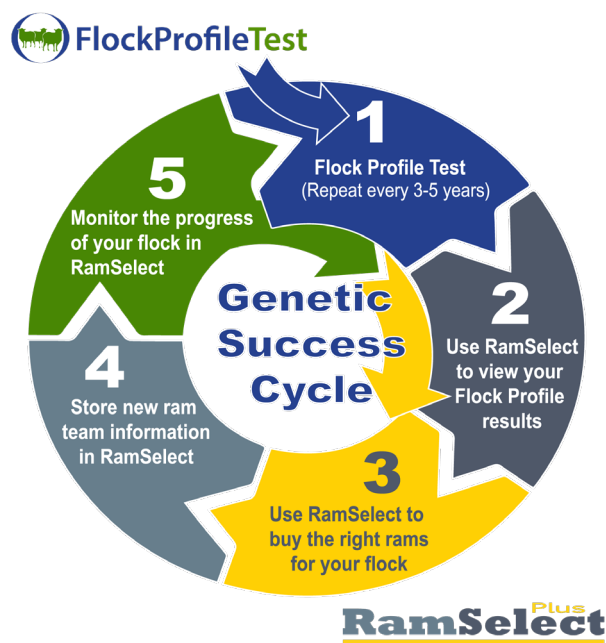
- Samples are checked and confirmed by our trained team;
- An email will be sent to you requesting payment for your tests;
- Note: Tests will not be processed until payment is made.

### 6. Results generated

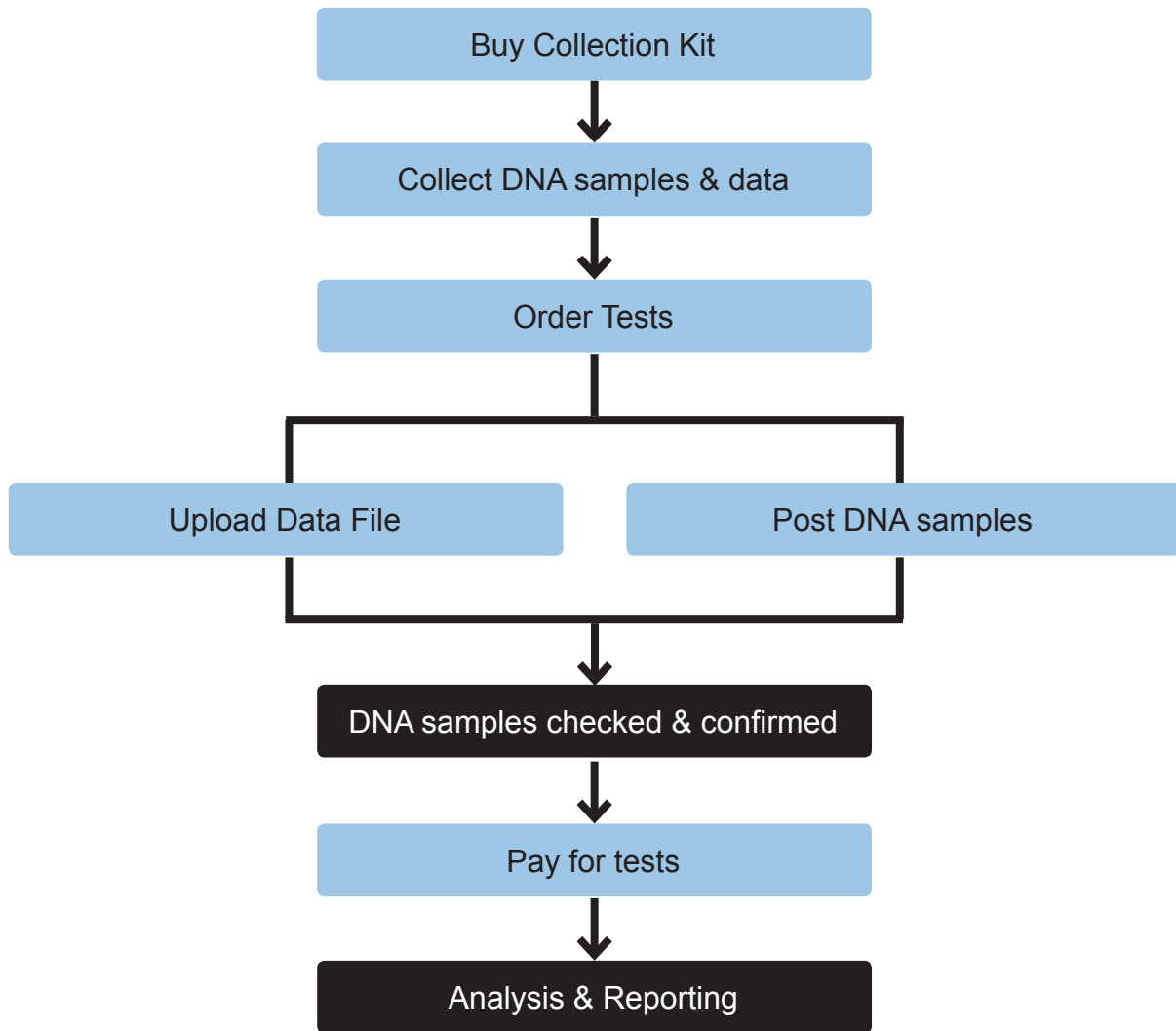
- Flock Profile results provide you with values and percentile band standings based on ASBV scale for key traits fleece weight, fibre diameter, staple length, weight, eye muscle depth, curvature, CV, fat and the standard industry indexes.

### 7. Reports received

- Flock Profile reports will be posted to producers from the DNA office and results will be loaded into your free RamSelect Account and accessible at any time.
- Note: A free subscription to the RamSelect app is provided for 12 months so you can access your Flock Profile results and search ram sales for individual rams that suit your breeding objectives and flock requirements.



## Getting Started



## Help Desk

Please direct all enquires to our SheepDNA team

### SheepDNA Office

W48, University of New England (UNE)

Armidale NSW 2351

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