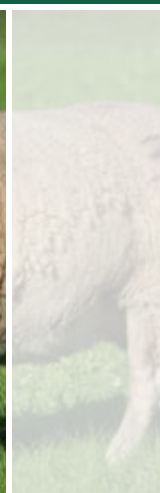




August 2020




AUSTRALIAN  
**WHITE SUFFOLK**  
ASSOCIATION





Designer Generations - Well-Balanced, Impeccably Bred Sheep



**An outstanding line-up of impressive genetics**

View our total offering of the 2019 drop at the annual on-property sale

**Thursday 8th October 2020 - 250 head**


**70 Stud Ewes - 30 Stud Rams - 20 Specialty Rams - 130 Flock Rams**

Stud ewes from 11.30am  
Stud rams from 12.30pm





Check out full catalogue (Available early September) & latest updates on our website


**www.detpagrove.com**

Also regular updates and individual rams of interest on





**Enquires welcome**  
David & Michelle Pipkorn, Jeparit, Victoria  
(03) 5391 8202  
David: 0428 918 372  
info@detpagrove.com




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**COVER PHOTO CREDITS:**  
Top: Andrew Pearson Photogrpahy, Piallamore  
Bottom Left: B Addis, Yonga Downs  
Bottom Right: TL & NM Smith, Marleigh

**PUBLISHING DATES - CLOSING DATES**

15 MAR

April Issue

30 JUN

August Issue

15 OCT

November Issue

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
as of August 2017

	members
back cover	\$660.00
inside cover page	\$495.00
full inside page	\$330.00
half page	\$220.00
centre spread	\$990.00

Advertising in the AWSA Newsletter is available to all members with content to have a White Suffolk focus. Corporate rates for sheep industry related groups are available on request to the AWSA.

**DISCLAIMER**

Members are advised that advertisements, information and opinions printed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the association or its members.





### President

**Anthony Hurst** "Seriston"  
 Mob: 0428 332 676  
 PO Box 39, Avenue Range SA 5273  
 E: ahurst.seriston@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committees:** Branded Product



### Vice President

**Andrew Heinrich** "Ella Matta"  
 Mob: 0427 596 108  
 PO Box 91, Parndana SA 5520  
 E: ellamatta@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committees:** Technical;  
 Strategic Plan



### Secretariat

**Nikki Ward**  
 Mob: 0488 018 765  
 PO Box 194, St Agnes SA 5097  
 E: whitesuffolk@gmail.com



### Newsletter

**BizBoost Creative**  
 23 George St, Millicent SA 5280  
 Ph: 0438 449 534  
 E: info@bizboost.com.au

### SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS

<b>Promotions &amp; Marketing:</b>	Peter Angus
<b>Branded Product:</b>	Anthony Hurst
<b>Strategic Plan:</b>	Debbie Milne
<b>Technical:</b>	Andrew Heinrich
<b>Finance:</b>	Brenton Addis
<b>Tasmanian Rep:</b>	John Jamieson
<b>BEWSSS Rep:</b>	John Jamieson
<b>RA&amp;HS Elite Sale Delegate:</b>	Peter Button
<b>LambEx:</b>	Andrew Heinrich
<b>National Conference:</b>	Paul Routley

### COUNCIL



**Brenton Addis** "Yonga Downs"  
 Mob: 0400 064 458  
 PO Box 90, Gnowangerup WA 6335  
 E: yongadowns@outlook.com  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing; Finance



**Peter Angus** "Maroola"  
 Mob: 0408 826 009  
 PO Box 98, Mallala SA 5502  
 E: peteangus1@gmail.com  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing; Strategic Plan



**Peter Button** "Ramsay Park"  
 Mob: 0419 842 246  
 PO Box 103, Minlaton SA 5575  
 E: ramsaypark@internode.on.net  
**Sub-Committees:** Branded Product; Strategic Plan



**Ian Gilmore** "Baringa"  
 Mob: 0427 363 566  
 265 Foley's Creek Rd, Oberon NSW 2787  
 E: baringa1001@gmail.com  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing



**John Jamieson** "Wattle Park"  
 Mob: 0427 500 676  
 Wattle Park, Finley NSW 2713  
 E: jamo.5@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing



**Andrew Krieg** "Aylesbury Farm"  
 Mob: 0409 169 693  
 PO Box 465, Hahndorf SA 5245  
 E: andawirra1@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committees:** Promotions & Marketing; Sponsorship



**Lachie McCrae** "Somerset"  
 Mob: 0418 540 790  
 1223 Nigretta Rd, Cavendish VIC 3314  
 E: somerset01@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing; Sponsorship; Strategic Plan



**Debbie Milne** "Waratah"  
 Mob: 0407 724 066  
 PO Box 15, Branhholme VIC 3302  
 E: sjdjmilne@bigpond.com  
**Sub-Committees:** Technical; Strategic Plan; Finance



**Paul Routley** "Almondvale"  
 Mob: 0427 209 016  
 Almondvale, Urana NSW 2645  
 E: almondvale@activ8.net.au  
**Sub-Committee:** Promotions & Marketing

Photo courtesy of Andrew Pearson Photography, Piallamore



## from the president

The drought has broken in places, good rains have fallen across the regions and I'm hearing that a lot of areas have had the best start in decades. This is fantastic to hear as our members are well into lambing. Seeing the latest genetics hitting the ground and watching their development is certainly exciting times.

With ram selling season fast approaching, this thing called COVID-19 has made running our Association very difficult but has opened our eyes in a way. The cancellation of our major shows across the country has changed the dimensions of how we advertise the breed to get maximum exposure. Federal Council has had to take our social media and digital campaigns to another level which has led us to join forces with Struan and Monika Pearce from studstocksales. Struan will be working with Nikki on video promos, editorial stories and new ways to utilise Facebook, Instagram and our website to their maximum.

On top of this, Brenton has been working on new promotional clothing range and Andrew has been lifting our exposure with sponsorship. We are pleased to welcome Rural Bank onboard as a Gold sponsor for 2020/2021. Our new bumper stickers are printed and ready to go out if anyone wants some.

Our TV advertising will continue this season across most of the areas and for the first-time radio advertising will be pushed into areas that we struggle to reach through television. The very popular Win a Ram competition will be seeing double this year with two rams to be won. This will be promoted through all our advertising.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 restrictions have forced us to change the way elite sales are staged across the country. The Elite Show in Bendigo has been cancelled for 2020 however the Committee is working on a complete online sale on AuctionsPlus on 30 August and open to all White Suffolk breeders. This is a great opportunity for those members who haven't been involved with the Elite in Bendigo. Feel free to get in touch with Nikki or Shane Baker (Committee Chair) for more information.

Over in the West things are going ahead as planned for the WA Elite Sale at Williams Showground on 24 August which will be interfaced with AuctionsPlus. Similar plans are also in place for the Royal Adelaide Elite Sale to be interfaced with AuctionsPlus on 6 September.

On a sadder note our thoughts go out to the Grossman family with the devastating news that they lost their home in a house fire caused by lightning earlier this month. It is great to see the support offered to Mark, Jane, Lachlan and Stefan by members.

With everything 2020 has thrown up so far, I would like to thank Nikki and the Federal Council for all the work they have put in to help promote the breed so far and the plans moving forward to give our breed the best exposure leading into selling season.



*Anthony Hurst*  
 President



# WOOLUMBOOL

❖ Performance ❖ Reliability ❖ Worm Resistance ❖ Quality Data



- Currently 2<sup>nd</sup> rank LEQ Sire
- 2380 Progeny
- Semen available
- High accuracies
- Sons available at this years ram sale
- 2 High ranking sons with semen available
- 185559\_LEQ 169.7
- 185540\_LEQ 167.2

WOOLUMBOOL-173980

BWT	WWT	PWT	PEMD	PFAT	PWEC	NLW	DRESS	LMY	IMF	SHEARF5	TCP	LEQ
0.45	11	17.7	3.4	0.6	-62	10%	2.8	2.52	0.49	-5.4	164.9	174.7
98%	98%	98%	99%	98%	95%	49%	80%	89%	68%	67%	64%	72%

Annual On-Property Ram Sale - 120 Rams

10 Elites ❖ 110 Flock Rams plus Poll Dorsets & Poll Merinos

See a list of our Elites with data on our website

Wednesday 7th October - 1pm



Contact Phil & Sharon Clothier, PO Box 102, Naracoorte, SA 5271

Ph: (08) 8765 8026 ❖ Mobile: 0427 658 026

Email: woolumbool@bigpond.com

Aaron & Sally Clothier ❖ Mobile: 0428 658 002

Email: aaron.sally@bigpond.com

For more information find us and follow us on



@woolumboolstuds



www.woolumbool.com.au

## secretary's report

It is hard to believe it is August already! I hope all members have had a good lambing season and are travelling well with their preparations for the ram selling season.

It has certainly been difficult in planning the Elite Sales for 2020 with the uncertainty around state restrictions and hygiene protocols. It is a relief to see that restrictions are easing in most states and life is getting back to some level of normal, hopefully it continues to move in the right direction.

Members have been utilizing Facebook to share photos and videos of their White Suffolks and announcing how they will be running their ram sales in the coming months. We have been trying to share as many photos and updates as we can to our Facebook stories which is proving to be popular with our followers. If you would like your photos and updates to appear in our Facebook stories then please tag the Association so we can share and tag you.

Further to this, if members are happy for us to use their photos on social media or in our Newsletter and promotions, we would be grateful. Members can send photos through Facebook messenger, or email them to whitesuffolk@gmail.com.

This Newsletter edition was rather different to put together without show results to report on and with an increase in stud adverts. We have worked hard to balance it with a good mix of editorial.

To replace the results that would usually be included for Sydney, ASWS Bendigo and Dubbo, we have delved into our archives and included a snapshot of Champions from 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015 at these Shows. And for those that like to reminisce, we also came across the Champions from the 2000 National Show at Dookie.

Why 2000 , 2005, 2010 and 2015?

Well, 2020 is the 35th anniversary year of the formation of the Association. These years represent some of the milestone years for the Association and we will carry this on to the November newsletter for Hamilton, Adelaide, Perth, Launceston and Hobart. If you have any photos to contribute for these shows in the next newsletter, please send them to us.

Finally, I wish all members a successful selling season with however you are choosing to sell your stock this year.

Stay safe and healthy.



*Nikki Ward*  
Secretariat

## new members

SINCE APRIL 2020

Welcome to the following new members of the AWSA:

Flock	Name	Town	State	Stud Prefix
952	BJ Carracher	Wannon	VIC	"Grangeburn"
953	BC O'Dea	Pekina	SA	"Wepowie"
954	SJ Jennings	Keith	SA	"Condowie"





# Federal Council Matters

Courtesy of Federal Council

July 2020

## Annual Returns

The Annual Return process has been completed and the 2020 Flock Book will soon be distributed to members. Thank you to all members for their prompt completion of their Annual Return data and membership renewal.

## Brucellosis Accreditation

A reminder for any members that have not already uploaded or forwarded a copy of their Brucellosis Accreditation certificate to please do so as soon as possible.

## New Sponsor - Rural Bank

We welcome Rural Bank as a sponsor of the Association. We are pleased to have Rural Bank on board and look forward to working with them over the next 12 months.



## 2021 National Conference - Lake Hume Resort, Albury NSW

Lake Hume Resort in Albury, NSW has been confirmed as the location of our 2021 National Conference. The Conference will be held from 14th – 16th February. More information will be distributed to members as soon as available.

## 2020 Elite Sales

With the unfortunate cancelling of shows around the country it is pleasing to see that a number of White Suffolk Elite Sales are still going ahead using Auctions Plus. Please see below dates for 2020 Elite Sales:

**24th August WA Elite Sale -**  
held at the Williams Showground  
Live physical auction interfaced  
with AuctionsPlus commencing  
@ 1:00pm (AWST)

**30th August Elite White Suffolk & Suffolk Sale -**  
held online through AuctionsPlus  
Sale commences @ 12:00 noon (AEST)

**6th September Royal Adelaide Elite Ram Sale**  
held at the Adelaide Showground  
Live physical auction interfaced with  
AuctionsPlus commencing @ 1:00pm  
(ACST)

For more information and catalogues for any of the above sales visit [www.whitesuffolk.com.au](http://www.whitesuffolk.com.au) and access the sale under the Events tab.

## Vale - Roe Treasure

It is with sadness that we share the news that Roe Treasure recently passed away after a long illness. Roe and her husband John owned "Elouera" White Suffolk Stud (Flock No 6) and were heavily involved in the early development of the White Suffolk breed. Roe is survived by John and their three children Matthew, Wayne and Elizabeth. The Association extends its condolences to the Treasure family.



## 1st STAGE - on property Complete White Suffolk Ewe Dispersal & Suffolk /Black Composite Reduction Sale

2015 -2019 Drop Ewes

# CHANGE OF DATE

## FRIDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER 2020

Starting 12 noon (SA time) -

Inspections from 9am or day prior by appointment



FULLY INTERFACED WITH AUCTIONS PLUS

Peter & Julie Button

Mob: 0419 842 246

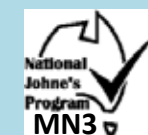
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email: [ramsaypark@internode.on.net](mailto:ramsaypark@internode.on.net)

[www.ramsaypark.com.au](http://www.ramsaypark.com.au)



Tom Penna  
0428 854 708



Gordon Wood  
0408 813 215



# Promotions & Marketing

Courtesy of Peter Angus

July 2020

## Print Advertising

Our print advertising campaign continues as in previous years however we will be slightly reducing the number of print advertisements across the states to allow for an increase to our digital advertising based on last year's member feedback.

Print advertisements will be a similar design to 2019 and will include promotion of the 2020 Win A Ram Competition.

## Digital Advertising

We will be slightly increasing our digital advertising presence in 2020 and looking at targeted campaigns based on the location of members and areas that have been identified for increasing our breed promotion. This type of digital campaign achieved the best results in 2019 and allows us to target areas that are difficult to reach with TV and radio.

We will also be using Facebook advertisements for extra breed promotion. These adverts can also be targeted to specific groups and interests.

The focus of our digital campaign will be the Win A Ram Competition as this provides a call to action and increases traffic to our website.

## TV Campaign

Our TV advert has been given a revamp for 2020 and will be aired across the WIN TV network in rural Australia between September and November.

The advert will also be uploaded to the AWSA website homepage and Facebook page. Members are encouraged to view the advert and share it with their networks also.

## Radio Advertising

Radio advertising will be added to our promotions campaign in 2020. The 15-second advert will be aired between September and November in areas that are not currently covered by our TV advert. This will complement our TV, print and digital campaign.

## Video Promotions - studstocksales

We will be working with Struan and Monika Pearce from studstocksales to produce short video interviews with commercial producers on their use of and success with White Suffolks. The videos will be added to our YouTube channel and shared on our Facebook page.

If you have any commercial clients that would be willing to appear in a short video please get in touch with us.

## Editorial

Our 2020 editorial focus has been on the advantages of using White Suffolk and Merino first cross ewes as a prime lamb dam, emphasising the versatility of our breed's terminal and maternal traits.

Members may receive emails from the Secretary over the coming months seeking contacts and story ideas for White Suffolk specific editorial.

If you have any commercial clients that are achieving success with their use of White Suffolks OR if you are a White Suffolk member using White Suffolks in your own commercial breeding program (eg over Merino ewes and/or WS x Merino ewes) then we would love to hear from you.



## Win A Ram Competition - 2 x \$1500 vouchers

We are pleased to announce that the prize draw for the Win A Ram Competition has doubled to 2 x \$1500 vouchers in 2020.

This is a great opportunity for all commercial White Suffolk lamb producers and we encourage all members to promote the competition to their clients at upcoming sales.

## Bumper Stickers

Our new AWSA Bumper Sticker is now available for members to use themselves or distribute to their clients and at shows/field days.

If you would like to be sent some stickers, please contact Nikki and she will post them out to you.



## Find Us....



Facebook:	@whitesuffolks
Instagram:	@whitesuffolks
Twitter:	@whitesuffolk
Tag in your posts:	#whitesuffolks





## Prime Success with White Suffolks

By Ruth Schwager

25 June 2020

Extra weight gain, easy lambing and reliable performance - they're some of the benefits of using White Suffolk terminal sires in first or second-cross lamb production.

Elise Kealy, who farms alongside her brother Bernie and parents Tony and Ange, near Edenhope in western Victoria, has been using White Suffolk sires over 45 per cent of the family's self-replacing Merino flock for the past 15 years.

The 1900-hectare property Curlew runs about 12,000 sheep, including the Curlew Merino stud, with the farm split over two locations, 50km apart.

While the first-cross operation is a sideline business to the wool production, it's become a profitable enterprise in its own right, spreading market risk for the family and injecting more regular cash flow.

"Over the years we tried Border Leicester and Poll Dorset rams but we like the White Suffolk cross because they're a more labour efficient animal and reliable performers," Ms Kealy said.

"The first-cross operation fits the whole farm operation, with our season and pasture curve, extremely well."

The Kealys have been using Waratah and Pioneer genetics for the past few years, selecting genetics for low birthweight to suit the Merino ewes, along with extra growth and muscle, minimal fat and good worm resistance.

Running a highly fertile flock of Merino ewes means the family can run a split joining, beginning with a three-week joining.

"Eighty per cent of our ewes will fall within those three weeks, and there's only a small percentage in the second lot, which makes lamb marking and marketing easier because it's an even line of lambs," Ms Kealy said.

Lambs are finished on pasture, including phalaris, clover and lucerne, and sold as suckers at 16 to 20 weeks, usually weighing from 30 to 35 kilograms.

"Because of our winter dominant rainfall, we get a big flush of pasture in spring and the lambs utilise that.

"When the season dries out then we get rid of the crossbred lambs, so the time of sale depends on the season that year."

***Pictured right:** Woolgrowers and prime lamb producers, Bernie, Elise and Tony Kealy at Curlew, Edenhope*

The wether portion is sold through the Naracoorte saleyards in South Australia and last year's ewe portion was sold privately.

"The breeder who purchased them was really happy with them, so we hope to sell the ewes to restockers again," Ms Kealy said.

"We believe in investing in good genetics and it's nice to be rewarded for that because others see the value in our genetics."

White Suffolk-infused sheep are growing in demand as producers look for an alternative to the traditional Border Leicester/Merino ewe used in the region.

LMB Livestock agent Hugh Douglas sold the Kealy family's ewe portion last year after connecting another first-cross breeder to clients of the company.

"We had potential purchasers who were keen on the sheep before they were born," Mr Douglas said.



"It's sometimes hard to find traditional first-cross lambs in larger numbers and we were able to say to our clients that we do have sheep in our own area that would suit the job.

"Both our clients selling first-cross ewe lambs have very good Merino flocks, and they're buying top end White Suffolk genetics. A lot of people see them as a meat breed only but given the right environment they can perform as breeding sheep."

# OLD AGE IS A PAIN IN THE.....!!!

## Annual On-Property Ram Sale

### October 7th 2020 - 1:00pm

at 625 Tungamah Boundary Road, Katandra VIC

As of November 2020,  
Millswyn White Suffolk Stud  
will be FOR SALE

Preferably as a block of **60-80 ewes** (2017-2019 drop)  
plus **2 Stud Rams** including the **Stud Prefix; Millswyn**.

The Stud was commenced in 1988, and has been a member of  
Lambplan since inception. **MN3V & Brucellosis Accredited #109**.

Ewes in top condition and will have lambed by September.

Millswyn

White Suffolk Stud

Flock : 113

Helen Morgan

**Phone:** 03 58 288 269 **Mobile:** 0499 898 037

**Email:** millswyn@bigpond.com



# White Suffolk Youth News

Courtesy of Lucy Cook

In late June we launched our closed Facebook group to our online community for Youth Group members to join.

The launch of the group was announced on our Facebook page and we are pleased that the group has now grown to 25 members.

Anyone aged 13-25 years is welcome to join and they can find the group on our White Suffolk Youth Facebook page under "Groups", or see the post pinned to the top of our page.

Over the coming months we will be using our Facebook group to connect and chat with each other. Members can seek advice from the group and share photos of what they are up to with their White Suffolks or involvement with sheep.

We are in the process of putting together our first e-newsletter, and excited to share our new logo which will be used on our Facebook page and any correspondence we send out to our youth network.

Thank you to the Association and members for their continued support of the Youth Group.



## ELITE STUD SHEEP SALE

**Sunday, 6 September 2020 at 1pm**  
Sheep Pavilion, Adelaide Showground  
*Also available online via Auctions Plus*

All studs comply with the RA&HS of SA OJD regulations

Agents: **Elders** **Nutrien**  
Livestock

Enquiries to Rural Services Office on (08) 8210 5230



**Breeds include:**  
White Suffolk  
Suffolk  
Poll Dorset

- [THESHOW.COM.AU](http://THESHOW.COM.AU) -  
Facebook Twitter Instagram #ADELSHOW

ELITE PERFORMANCE GENETICS  
*You Can Count On*

**25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY RAM SALE**

**THURSDAY  
1ST OCTOBER**

**12 NOON (VIC TIME)**



**Andrew & Joel Donnan**

Willangie-Woomelang Rd, Woomelang VIC 3485

Andrew: 0427 812 227 Joel: 0428 514 406

andenstud@bigpond.com

[www.andenstud.com.au](http://www.andenstud.com.au)





# BOOLOLA WHITE SUFFOLKS • EST 1998

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual On Property Sale

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
Commencing 1pm

**10 Specially Selected Rams**  
140 Flock Rams

**Shane, Amber, Rory & Remi Baker**

**0439 752 576**

**135 Havelock Road**

**Baringhup, VIC 3463**

**[sandabaker@bigpond.com](mailto:sandabaker@bigpond.com)**

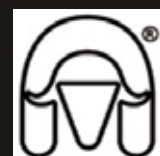
**f Follow us on Facebook**

***Booloola White Suffolk Stud***

**OJD Approved Vaccinates**

**Brucellosis Accredited 2008**

***Inspection always welcome***



## COVID-19 second wave could impact sheep meat and wool demand

Courtesy of Sheep Central

While a largely recovered Australian dollar explains some of the downward pressure, weak global demand fundamentals for some commodities will be an issue over the coming months, according to National Australia Bank's monthly Rural Commodities Wrap from June.

On the other hand, a second wave is well underway in some countries. In Australia – which has to date effectively suppressed the virus – an outbreak in Victoria is being closely watched.

There are already reports of panic buying in Melbourne. If there is an uptick in this activity some commodities may see a demand surge as was seen in March, although this has yet occurred in earnest.

Another spanner in the works is the recent coronavirus outbreak in Beijing, NAB says. The Chinese Government claims the outbreak was spread through imported salmon and has now moved to increase restrictions on some imported meat products, including some US chicken.

"Whether this is good, bad or indifferent for Australian agriculture remains to be seen, but it does highlight the ongoing risks associated with global trade during a pandemic," NAB agribusiness economist, Phin Ziebell said.

Sustained sheep prices are sitting at near record highs on restocker demand and improved seasonal conditions. The National Trade Lamb Indicator remains remarkably buoyant in the high 800c/kg range.

The Northern Trade Lamb Indicator, while below its March peaks, currently in the high 800s range, was still remarkably buoyant he said. That said, the other side of the sheep game was in dire straits, with the Eastern Market Indicator (EMI) at \$11.10/kg.

Overall, agricultural markets have proved a mixed bag recently, with the NAB Rural Commodities Index recording a slight drop of 3.3pc in May.

"Global wheat prices have softened due to a stronger supply outlook, while the domestic basis has fallen in response to the likelihood of a large winter crop off the back of improved seasonal conditions," Mr Ziebell said.

"NAB expects domestic feed grain prices to continue to soften should favourable seasonal conditions continue."

"Ongoing weakness across fibres, sugar and more recently dairy (particularly cheddar), a function of weak global demand fundamentals and a largely recovered A\$, is concerning," Mr Ziebell said.

The Bureau of Meteorology's three-month outlook to September points to a wet winter and early spring across most of the country, although the Western Australia wheatbelt is forecast to be average and parts of Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania below average.

The A\$ has rallied from its lows in April and is currently sitting in the high US60s, with NAB forecasting an increase to US72c and US75c by the end of 2020 and 2021, respectively.



# A 'one size doesn't fit all' approach should be taken when weaning lambs

By Kristen Frost

Finding the optimal time to wean prime lambs often leaves producers perplexed.

But according to sheep and beef consultant, Dr Bruce Allworth of Charles Sturt University, the solution is in determining why you want to wean?

He suggested producers look closely at their enterprise, recognise their target market, and consider the season.

"There are no specific reasons to wean lambs, but as managers, there are three main reasons we need to wean," Dr Allworth said.

"The obvious thing we need to do when weaning is look after our lambs to give the lambs better access to feed and possibly allow better worm control, but equally important is to get the weight back on the ewes."

At four to six-weeks-old the lamb is still sourcing all its energy from milk, but reasonably quickly, as the lamb gets bigger and the milk supply drops off, a quick changeover occurs and most of the nutrition comes from the grass.

Dr Allworth said a key observation to determine when this is happening is the distance the lamb is from the ewe.

"As lambs begin to eat, they tend to drift further and further away. They are out grazing with the other sheep and hence competing with the ewe to get the grass.

"So, if the lambs need better feed and you have better feed available, the sheep are going to benefit by weaning those lambs."

The second reason, Dr Allworth said, may be the most important of all.

When the ewe looks like she needs looking after, it's time to act.

"It's important to get the ewe back into good condition for an increased reproduction rate next joining," Dr Allworth said.

"This is particularly if you are lambing mid to late winter.

"By the time you wean their lambs in late November, they aren't going to have a lot of time and good nutrition to put weight on before you join them again in February.

"Every kilogram that you can put on that ewe between when you wean her and when you put the rams out will result in two per cent extra lambs next year."



Photo courtesy of T. Bettess

He said ewes that are four to five kilos lighter at joining than they would have been by weaning a couple of weeks earlier could result in a 10pc lower lambing percentage the following year.

Identifying your target market and working with the season should play a major role in the decision, Dr Allworth said.

"The mere act of weaning lambs is going to cause them a setback," he said.

"Obviously if you are going to market those lambs straight off their mums, it's nothing to do with nutrition, it's all to do with stress and grouping animals together," he said.

"So, if you are going to market those lambs straight off their mothers, you might leave them on their mums to 13 or 14 weeks so you don't get that setback.

"But if you are going to market your lambs eight to 12 weeks post weaning, I would be encouraging you to not delay weaning.

"Fourteen weeks from the commencement of lambing for a prime lamb flock is a good starting point."

But he suggested commencing weaning earlier than this if it's a tough season and if it's a good season, timing can be a little more relaxed.

"Both the ewe and the lamb should be doing well as long as there is adequate worm control," Dr Allworth said.

"Keep in mind if you wean your lambs every year at 14 weeks after the first lamb is born, in some years that will be spot on, in other years that will be the wrong time."



*It would be a crime to social distance from these rams!*

2 x INDURO  
2 x LAURIDALE  
RAMS

SELLING

*Bendigo Elite &  
Adelaide Elite Ram Sales*

ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY RAM SALE

*Friday 9th October 2020*

12 SPECIALLY SELECTED RAMS | 168 FLOCK RAMS

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO SEE WHAT WE ARE UP TO AND VIDEOS OF OUR SALE RAMS



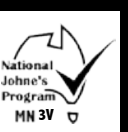
INDURO WHITE SUFFOLK STUD  
Guy Treweek

Wakool NSW, 2710

M: 0400 047 027

E: indurowhitesuffolks@gmail.com

f /indurowhitesuffolks





# Yanta White Suffolks

## 33RD ANNUAL ON PROPERTY RAM SALE MONDAY 24TH AUGUST 2020

INSPECTION 12 NOON | SALE 2.00PM



Brucellosis Free accredited Sale Rams have been Lambplan recorded,  
OJD vaccinated and paddock reared with a full drenching and vaccinating program.



ASHMORE 170715

### SIRE LIST OF THIS YEARS SALE RAMS

	BWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	C+	TCP
ASHMORE 170715 (pictured left)	0.39	20.3	-1.0	2.0	229	158
FARRER 160068	0.50	19.9	-0.4	2.1	227	156
WOOLUMBOOL 173980	0.46	17.9	0.5	3.3	225	165
ASHMORE 160301	0.60	20.4	-0.8	1.5	222	151
YANTA 170143 (son of BD 122261)	0.46	18.1	-0.7	1.4	210	147

ALL FEATURE GREAT STRUCTURE & PERFORMANCE

### 2019 ANNUAL RAM SALE RESULTS

78 Rams Offered | 72 Rams Sold  
Top Price \$3,000 | Average \$1,114

### 2019 DROP RAMS OF INTEREST

	SIRE	BWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	C+	TCP
190178	ASH 715	0.31	20.1	-0.6	2.2	230	156
190728	ASH 715	0.43	20.6	-1.1	1.9	229	156
190252	FAR 068	0.38	19.2	-0.6	1.8	221	150
190630	ASH 715	0.32	17.8	-0.5	2.6	221	152
190310	WOOL 3980	0.49	17.0	-0.1	2.5	214	155
190299	WOOL 3980	0.38	18.2	-0.0	1.9	212	152
190255	WOOL 3980	0.54	16.4	-0.6	2.0	209	154

WITH IMPRESSIVE GENOTYPE & PHENOTYPE



ABOVE: Top price White Suffolk Ram at our 2019 Sale  
- Yanta 180359, purchased by Ian Proude for \$3,000.

BWT	PWT	PEMD	TCP	C+
0.34	18.4	1.7	148	215

[www.yantasheepstuds.com.au](http://www.yantasheepstuds.com.au)

### Don & Bev Baillie

Mine Hill Rd, Tumby Bay SA 5605

P: 08 8688 2041

M: 0428 305 940

E: [yanta.tumbybay@bigpond.com](mailto:yanta.tumbybay@bigpond.com)



Yanta Sheep Studs



**Pictured:** Jessie Davis (left) with her three dogs  
Kobi, Koko and Nikki and Jesse's mother Vicki  
Dixon

## Passion drives a return to farm

By Jessica Whyte

Driven by her passion for agriculture Jessie Davis (Dixon) returned to the family farm, Fairview Farm, where she helps run their sheep and cropping enterprise at Narembeen with her parents Murray and Vicki Dixon.

The Dixon family acquired the farm in the 1930s, with Jessie becoming the fourth generation to work the property.

After graduating from Muresk in 2010 with an Agribusiness degree she went on to work for Agworld in sales and support, before heading to Katanning where she was involved in the development of the Multicultural and Aboriginal Engagement and Enhancement Super Towns projects.

In 2014, having experienced life away from the farm Jessie decided to return home to be a farmer.

"I was excited about the prospects of working with family and on the land," Jessie said.

Their property consists of 4000 hectares on which a flock of 1400 mated Merino ewes are run, equating to a 70 per cent cropping and 30pc livestock ratio.

The cropping program is made up of mostly cereals with some canola and lupins on rotation.

Of the 30pc land used for the sheep, half of it is used for pasture improvement paddocks.

"We improve the paddocks by planting a clover or a tillage radish with either an oat or winter wheat," Jessie said.

As a trial the business planted some oats early in the year as a grazing crop for the sheep.

"We planted oats on February 29 and the twin bearing ewes and their lambs are grazing that now for the second time," Jessie said.

"It has done quite well.

"It got grazed back to nothing and then it didn't rain and I thought well that was a quick trial but it came back with that last rain (26 millimetres) we had two weeks ago (end of May)."

The Merino ewes are mated to White Suffolk sires sourced from Nick and Gina Cheetham's Cheetara stud, Narembeen.

"Usually we try to purchase our ewes locally from studs if we can," Jessie said.

Jessie said she likes that the Merino ewes are dual-purpose but enjoys having the crossbreds.

"The crossbreds are a bit more work in the fencing department, but we are not looking at a full Merino flock at this stage," she said.

Jessie doesn't breed any replacement stock so she buys in all their ewes on an annual or two-yearly basis.

"We purchase maidens or one to two-year-old ewes and we will do a cull of our dry ewes after pregnancy scanning," Jessie said.

Joining begins on October 10 for lambing in March/April and shearing occurs in July/August.

"We try to get lambing done early before seeding because most of our program goes towards cropping," Jessie said.



"In terms of management we really need to stop checking the sheep twice a day, which we do to maintain optimal welfare outcomes during lambing before seeding starts."

Despite buying in their ewes from different studs Jessie has managed to produce wool to 19 microns.

"We have averaged a really low micron wool, which is fantastic because our sheep are predominantly cull ewes from other producers," Jessie said.

"People would normally cull their ewes on wool quality but across the board we are getting fine wool from probably six different breeders."

Jessie believes that the addition of liquid minerals to their grain they feed out and their fertiliser rotation has helped to reduce the micron of their wool.

"Hopefully it is to do with nutrition, potentially what is actually growing in the paddock is resulting in a finer wool and it is not just genetics."

When selling their lambs, they aim for the heavy lamb market, with occasional air freighters.

"We normally sell on-farm or into a contract," Jessie said.

"We sold quite a lot to Fletchers this year because they have been producing the best prices, but traditionally WAMMCO or Fletchers get most of our prime lambs."

After 12 years of not having any sheep on the property, Jessie and her family decided to rebuild the sheep enterprise.

"We returned sheep into our business because we decided to rotate our paddocks more consistently and needed a profitable break crop and I was interested in livestock."

"The sheep provided an opportunity to make it a more profitable rotation."

The flock started out small but Jessie has continued to gradually build up the numbers over the years.

"Six years ago, we purchased 350 ewes and we have upped the numbers as we've gone along," she said.

"We would like to expand a bit more, but we'll just take it slowly."

The decision to diversify has paid off, especially after a tough 2019 season.

"We had some frost and the dry finish made it difficult, having the sheep in the system worked really well and they were our most profitable per hectare income in 2019," Jessie said.

As for the coming season, the farm has received about 110mm for the year and is looking promising, after receiving no summer rains.



## ROCDELL WHITE SUFFOLKS

Our next annual sale  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct**

On-property BIGGA, NSW

Offering 75 Stud & Flock White  
Suffolk Rams



Bendigo Elite

RD190200 by RD170008 – 1<sup>st</sup> August Ram and  
Res. Champion Canberra Royal 2020



Bendigo Elite

RD190170 by RD160018 'Maximus' – 2<sup>nd</sup> August  
Ram Canberra, Supreme W.S @ Crookwell Show



On-Property Sale

RD190055 by DAYS140320 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Pair Rams  
Canberra (to champion Ram)



Retained in Stud

RD 190061 by DAYS140320 – Used as Ram lamb

## Member News - Ned Andrew Picker



Congratulations to Rocdell Stud – Cameron and Ellie Picker – on the arrival of Ned Andrew Picker, born 15th February.

Ned made an appearance at Canberra Royal Show at only 2 weeks old to see his Dad and Pop get Reserve Champion Ram. Naturally, they thought they would have the opportunity to get a good photo together at shows later in the year, but Covid put a stop to that!

Ned is the first child for Cameron and Ellie, and grandchild number 3 for Brett and Sue Picker.



Contact: ROCDELL WHITE SUFFOLKS, 'Rocton', Bigga NSW

Brett Picker: (02)4835 2377 or 0437 644 609

Cameron Picker: 0404 712 608

For further information and updates follow us on Facebook







## Why use genomics when breeding White Suffolks?

Courtesy of Neogen Australasia

26 June 2020

The goal of every White Suffolk breeder is to turn off progeny that are more profitable and productive than the previous generation.

Using traditional genetic selection methods, such as visual assessment of conformation and type, transforming a flock from 'average' to 'elite' could take decades.

These traditional methods of selection remain as important as ever, but new objective genetic evaluation tools like DNA testing, allow breeders to press 'fast forward' on the pace of transformation by enabling them to identify with greater certainty and at a younger age the stock they need to keep and those they should cull.

Neogen Australasia's Territory Manager for South Australia and Western Australia, Dan Roe, said genomic technology may have once been daunting for breeders and complicated to adopt, but for those new to genomics the current range of sheep DNA tests were simple to use and the results easy to interpret.

Neogen operates Australia's only local livestock genomic testing laboratory in Gatton, Queensland, and is commercially delivering the range of tests developed by the former Cooperative Research Centre for Sheep Industry Innovation (Sheep CRC), in which the Australian White Suffolk Association was an active participant.

"DNA testing is a fast, accurate and cost-effective method for White Suffolk breeders to accelerate the rate of genetic gain in their flock," Mr Roe said.

"Visual assessment for conformation remains very important; DNA testing is simply another tool in the box to allow you access to the information you can't see."

"DNA testing helps breeders to identify exactly which rams and ewes to join by providing information on which animals contain the genes needed to achieve a specific breeding objective.

"For terminal breeders, that means early access to information on hard-to-measure traits, like intramuscular fat and tenderness, which they would otherwise have to wait until slaughter to obtain."

Genomic selection works by DNA testing an animal and comparing its DNA profile with thousands of other animals that have been DNA tested and measured for important traits. Based on this DNA comparison the genomic breeding value of an animal can be predicted.

Many ram breeders and ram buyers already use Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) to select animals using objective genetic records; these are further enhanced by the inclusion of genomic data from DNA tests.

Having visually identified the pick of a drop, the next step was to DNA test to identify which animals to use in a breeding program, Mr Roe said.

Testing can happen very early in life to enable the use of ram lambs in a stud breeding program and further shorten the timeframe for new genetics to have an impact on the overall flock performance.

Mr Roe recommended defining a clear breeding objective before embarking on a DNA testing program to ensure that test results were used to maximum effect in pursuing a genetic profile that aligned with the business's profit drivers.

Mr Roe said two types of tests were available to White Suffolk breeders – the Parentage Test and the Sheep Genomic Test.




Waratah 190396

Waratah 190328(back) 190398 (front)

**On property sale 12th October 2020 1.00pm**  
**100 rams 20 ewes**

TAG	SIRE	BWT	WWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	PWEC	LMY	IMF	SF5	LEQ	TCP
190263	Ella Matta 170300	0.30	10.0	16.0	0.4	3.7	-53	2.7	-0.08	-3.1	161.2	158.6
190268	Woolumbool 1703980	0.21	9.4	14.8	1.2	4.1	-58	2.2	0.20	-2.7	161.4	155.2
190285	Ella Matta 170300	0.29	10.8	17.3	1.0	3.3	-47	2.0	0.23	-3.7	163.0	157.3
190328	Waratah 180007	0.33	11.5	18.7	-1.1	1.6	-37	4.0	-0.37	0.7	153.8	155.6
190396	Waratah 170614	0.37	10.2	17.4	-0.9	2.4	-43	4.3	-0.72	1.1	149.4	154.6
190398	Waratah 170614	0.23	11.8	18.2	-0.6	2.9	-48	4.8	-0.82	2.7	148.1	154.1
190417	Waratah 180007	0.23	12.9	20.2	-0.6	2.7	-42	5.0	-0.41	2.4	159.0	161.0
190427	Waratah 180007	0.12	9.5	15.6	0.1	3.4	-41	2.9	-0.28	-0.6	153.9	154.6
190453	Waratah 180037	0.15	10.8	16.8	0.3	3.5	-60	3.5	-0.54	0.7	150.6	152.7
Terminal Average (2019 drop)		0.35	9.2	14.1	-0.5	1.7	-27	3.14	-0.49	2.8	130.1	136.7

Lambplan analysis 15th June 2020  Top 10% in 2019 Terminal drop

**Steve and Debbie Milne Branhholme Vic**

Ph Steve 0428 786327 Email [sjdmilne@bigpond.com](mailto:sjdmilne@bigpond.com)

**[www.waratahwhites.com.au](http://www.waratahwhites.com.au)**



The Parentage Test can link a lamb to its dam and/or sire and is ideal for use in multi-sire mating programs.

The Sheep Genomic Test includes parentage information, but also provides evaluations for the full scope of important genetic traits, including birth weight, weaning weight, fat depth, eye muscle depth, worm egg count, intramuscular fat, lean meat yield and shear force.

Combining the results from these tests with tools like the web-based app RamSelect, producers can then compare how animals compare to industry averages for these traits, and then select replacement rams to bolster any genetic weaknesses.

Mr Roe said Neogen staff were available to support the implementation of DNA testing in a breeding business,

but recommended breeders also work with their farm adviser or Sheep Genetics prior on questions such as which animals to test, how to interpret the results, and how to incorporate genomic information into your breeding program to achieve your breeding objectives sooner.

Adoption of genomic technologies is also being supported by Meat & Livestock Australia's Accelerated Adoption Initiative, which is providing free membership to Sheep Genetics to encourage more studs to take part in objective genetic selection technologies like ASBVs and genomics.

For more information visit [www.sheepdna.com.au](http://www.sheepdna.com.au) or contact Dan Roe at Neogen on 0447 639 552.

## Getting started is easy with Tissue Sampling Units

The genomic testing process starts with collecting a DNA sample from your animals and Tissue Sampling Units (TSUs) are quickest, easiest and cheapest option available for livestock breeders.

Neogen can also analyse DNA samples provided on blood cards, but TSUs are Neogen's recommended method for submitting DNA samples as they result in consistent sample type and quality.

When connected with Neogen's automated sample processing equipment, the benefit to breeders is reduced turnaround times and fewer sample rejections and fails.

On farm there's also less chance of a mix up when collecting samples as the TSU places each sample into a bar-coded vial, which can be scanned into a producer's data management system.

"TSUs enable Neogen to deliver test results back to producers more quickly," Neogen Territory Manager for SA and WA Dan Roe said. "This is because the tissue samples are stored cleanly in the sealed vials, resulting in fewer re-runs, and they can be processed automatically using our laboratory's robotic processing equipment."



TSU Applicators and TSU Collection Kits are available via the SheepDNA website and include:

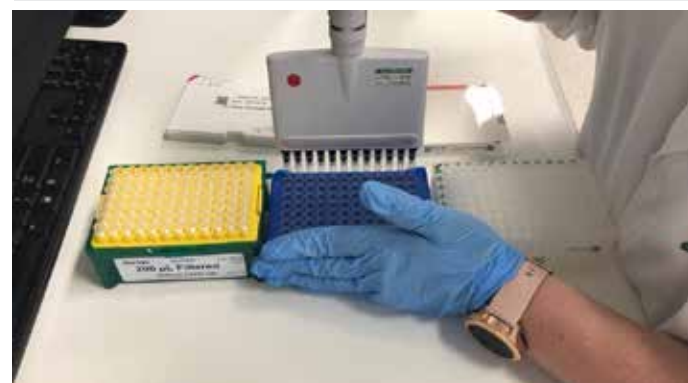
- TSUs (minimum order 10);
- Barcode list of TSU's;
- DNA submission form - to be completed and returned with the samples.

Instructional factsheets are available by contacting Dan Roe ([droe@neogen.com](mailto:droe@neogen.com)) or the SheepDNA office ([naa-sheep@neogen.com](mailto:naa-sheep@neogen.com))

Users must ensure that their RFID equipment is correctly configured for collecting TSU sample codes.

Although not compulsory for blood cards or TSU samples of less than 50, breeders are encouraged to supply an Animal Sample Data file with all returned DNA samples if possible, which assists Neogen in streamlining data samples and reducing turnaround times.

**Pictured:** DNA samples collected using TSUs are able to be analysed much faster through Neogen automated equipment than the traditional blood card method.



# Paddock Performance First & Foremost GALAXY PARK & FINGERPOST



ID	SIRE	BWT	PWWT	PEMD	TCP
GP190010	ASH 170568	0.56	17.2	1.9	156.7
GP190019	ASH 170568	0.32	16.2	1.7	149.8
GP190021	ASH 170568	0.36	18.1	2.1	160.3
GP190035	ASH 170568	0.46	17.0	1.4	154.6
★ GP190062	ASH 170568	0.53	17.2	1.8	153.8
F190122	Farr150244	0.46	17.7	1.6	149.2
F190187	Farr150244	0.40	16.1	1.6	144.4
GP190292	GP170449	0.45	18.2	2.2	148.9
GP190298	GP170355	0.47	18.4	1.7	151
GP190361	Farr150244	0.43	20.1	1.3	156.5
★ GP190418	GP170355	0.64	20.2	0.5	147.5



*Is it time you seriously considered these elite performance genetics, paddock raised from a breed foundation stud?*

★ 2 rams: GP 190062 & GP190418 are entered in the RAS Elite Sale (above right)

**Monarto Ram Sale - 564 Bremer Range Rd, Monarto South**

**Tuesday 15th September 2020 - 1pm CST**

**Offering approx 90 White Suffolk rams**

*Including 10 specially selected elite performance rams (above left)*

**\*\*\*\* Free delivery to central points \*\*\*\***

**Inspection from 11am & Lamb Roast Luncheon available**

Galaxy Park properties are accredited Brucellosis free & have MN3 status for OJD



Enquiries & orders welcomed and phone bidding can be arranged



Geoff Gale 0418 893 621 Barrie 0438 311 497 Email: [galaxypk7@bigpond.com](mailto:galaxypk7@bigpond.com)



**Bred in the paddock to perform in the paddock**





**Poll Dorset**

**Charollais**

**White Suffolk**

# Online Show & Auction

## 10TH (Show) & 11TH SEPTEMBER (Auction)

The Judge will be mic'd up & live streamed over Facebook, giving viewers a birds eye view of what the judge sees & thinks about the sheep & also allowing the audience a more interactive experience.

**White Suffolks  
Rams & Ewes**

**Inspections  
by request**



**Online Auction to be held through**

**Elite Livestock Auctions.**

**Jump online to have a look at how their sales work.**

**[www.elitelivestockauctions.com.au](http://www.elitelivestockauctions.com.au)**

**Lamb Plan figures & Pedigrees  
available online mid August**

**Scott Mitchell 0407 837 129**

Aus wide Brucellosis Acc  
MN2V Rams eligible



Follow us on Facebook  
for updated information  
weekly



## 5 Steps for joining LAMBPLAN

There has been an influx of breeders subscribing to Sheep Genetics during 2020. If you are yet to join LAMBPLAN, we have outlined what is needed for you to get involved.

Having your flock in LAMBPLAN is the only way to make faster genetic gain and use tools like genomics. White Suffolk flocks in LAMBPLAN are making serious genetic gain. Breeders are also using genomics to get better prediction for hard to measure traits like intramuscular fat.

LAMBPLAN delivers Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs). You can use ASBVs for getting faster rates of genetic gain in your flock but also as a tool to help sell rams. Increasingly ram buyers are focusing on studs that supply data.

So what are the steps to getting ASBVs on your sheep?

### 1. Is my flock ready to join?

We do our best to make services work for everyone. Although there are some requirements that need to be met so that you can submit quality data to LAMBPLAN.

The first of those is having pedigree recorded. LAMBPLAN is a genetic evaluation so having the sire and dam recorded on all lambs is important. Ideally you would have a couple of generations of pedigree recorded however starting with the current drop will be okay. There are various methods for recording pedigree, but most Terminal breeders chose to single sire mate and mother-up at birth. This allows them to get important information like date-of-birth and birth weight as well.

Another consideration is about effective numbers of progeny. At least two different rams must sire the current drop of progeny. This allows us to separate the genetic differences within your environment. If you have a small flock, you can still get effective numbers by managing them as one group and having a tight lambing period of less than 35 days.

The final requirement is linkage which is important for allowing ASBVs to be compared across flocks throughout the country. Linkage means using a ram from another LAMBPLAN flock that have relatives recorded. Your sheep can only receive ASBVs for a trait if they have linkage. Unlinked flocks will receive their results for with-in flock use only, called Flock Breeding Values (FBVs). Not everyone has linkage when they start out with LAMBPLAN. Chat to us about your flock's situation.

**Sheep GENETICS**



### 2. How do I sign up?

Pick up the phone or send us an email to discuss your breeding program with us. We will be able to guide you through the next steps. When your flock is ready to start, complete a subscription form (available on our website) and submit it. Your Sheep Genetics flock code will be the same as your breed society flock number or we can assign one for unregistered flocks.

It won't cost you anything to sign up to Sheep Genetics or submit data because of MLA's Accelerated Adoption Initiative. This runs until November 2021 for Sheep Genetics membership and services.

The normal fee schedule is available on our website.

### 3. How do I submit data?

Every fortnight we run the entire analysis to update the ASBVs on all animals. LAMBPLAN runs are started on the 1st and 15th of every month (or the Friday before), check our website for exact dates.

You can make a submission to through one of the five software options, BreedElite, MacroStock, Practical Systems Stockbook, Sapien KoolPerform or Pedigree Master. Each of the software vary in their features. It is worth doing your homework to work out which one suits your needs. Pedigree Master is free to use but does not come with any support services included.

You can ensure that your data is in good order with help from our team, the breeders guide and through the software. Each recording software comes with validation features to help identify mistakes. You will also be sent a Breeder's Guide that outlines recording in more details for every trait. Any other questions about entering data can be ran by us at Sheep Genetics.



If data entry into a software program is not your thing, there are many private data managers who can submit data on your behalf. Check out the "Service Providers" tab on our website for a list of trained data managers. Some of these Service Providers will also be able to offer support with other aspects of your stud as well.

#### 4. Receive your results

Sheep Genetics deliver results to the web and by email within ten working days of the run date. It is optional to have your sheep and their ASBV's displayed on the web.

You can use these results to assess where your flock sits compared to others, set breeding goals and select better sheep. ASBV's will be delivered for every sheep that you submit provided that the trait is recorded accurately enough.

From our website, you can make sale or semen catalogues and print pen cards with ASBV's and indexes.

#### 5. Making use of tools

By this stage you will have ticked off some major steps to improving your flock. How you use the ASBV's and indexes will make the biggest difference though.

Selecting sheep using the indexes and ASBV's provided will give you the greatest results. The indexes provide a sensible way to select sheep for multiple traits. They are the most efficient selection method in breeding. You can read more about our indexes on the Sheep Genetics website. Many studs use their genetic gain reports to demonstrate to clients that they are making progress across important traits.

You can couple selection with the use of genomics to get better information for hard to measure traits. Strategic use of genomics enables you to select ram lambs that will pass on favourable carcase attributes as well on farm traits. It's a great way to balance the breeding program across many important traits.

Another great tool that you can exploit is MateSel, which ensures steady genetic gain without increasing inbreeding. MateSel saves hours of studying sheep to allocate matings. It also provides you accurate predictions of the next drop so that you can ensure you are meeting goals. Ask the Sheep Genetics team about signing up to a workshop.

The final big win from LAMBPLAN is better marketing exposure. Clever ram buyers are looking to make their purchases with measured performance. We are releasing a new animal search website that will make it easier for buyers to find suitable rams. Make use of our sales and semen catalogues or print pen cards to display the genetic merit of sheep at sales and shows.

#### Where do I find out more?

Contact Sheep Genetics on:

**P:** 02 8055 1818 or **E:** [info@sheepgenetics.org.au](mailto:info@sheepgenetics.org.au) **W:** [sheepgenetics.org.au](http://sheepgenetics.org.au)

For more information about ASBV's and indexes:

MLA Genetics hub **W:** [genetics.mla.com.au](http://genetics.mla.com.au)



Photo courtesy of GR & MJ Cornish, 'Cremorne'



# Warburn



## 23rd Annual on Property Sale Wednesday Sept 30th, 2020 at 12.30pm

Some of our 2019 rams to keep an eye out for:

Tag	Bwt	Wwt	Pwwt	Pfat	Pemd	TCP	LEQ
Tr 145	0.28	11.8	18.7	0.1	3.7	163.2	161.1
Tw 94	0.50	12.1	18.9	-0.1	2.7	162.3	160.8
Tw 121	0.49	12.0	19.2	-0.4	2.1	150.6	150.7
18	0.52	12.9	20.4	-0.3	2.1	148.1	137.3
Tw 253	0.48	13.0	19.8	0.0	1.8	146.4	139.1
Tw 34	0.50	10.9	17.0	0.0	2.5	146.0	138.0
Tw 244	0.26	11.1	17.4	-0.1	2.6	145.9	138.2
314	0.23	10.7	17.3	0.1	2.4	143.5	138.2



Enquiries most welcome and inspection of stock by appointment. Videos and photos to come in September.

A & M Dissegna, 9 Nelson Rd, Warburn Via Griffith NSW 2680

E-mail: [amando@warburnstud.com.au](mailto:amando@warburnstud.com.au) Ph. 02 69634517

Amendo Mobile: 0427 487 987 Mark Mobile: 0407 505 486

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





## 2019 Win a Ram Competition Winner - Nathaniel Cocks



*Nathaniel Cocks, 2019 Win A Ram winner, recently claimed his winning voucher and sent in the below email and photos.*

I am a year 10 student at Beaudesert State High School, Queensland. I have often thought what a great experience it would be to run some sheep on our small farm. One day I was talking to my Dad about it and he gave me the 2019 White Suffolk Liftout that we received in the Country Life. As I read the magazine, I noticed an article about a competition to win \$1500 towards the purchase of a White Suffolk ram. I entered the competition and sometime later I received notification that I had won. Recently my Dad and I picked up a White Suffolk ram and two ewes from 'Pride of the Downs' and 'Milton Park', two Queensland White Suffolk studs. I am so grateful for the AWSA giving me the opportunity to be able to start a small White Suffolk flock in Beaudesert and look forward to seeing it grow.

*Congratulations Nathaniel, we wish you all the best with the beginnings of your White Suffolk flock.*

# illoura rams your prime lambs

**6th  
SEPT**

adelaide  
elite sale  
*2 stud rams*

**Rams you can trust for your  
prime lamb production**

**9th  
SEPT**

sa foundation  
breeders sale  
*5 stud rams 25 stud ewes*

**10th  
SEPT**

on-property  
flock ram sale  
*250 flock rams*

## Member News - Rosie Maureen Hawker



Rosie Maureen Hawker, tag number #1,  
born 22 June.

First progeny of new stud sire:

- ✓ Long gestation length +5 days
- ✓ High BWT – 3.8kgs.
- ✓ Good length and shape – 49cm
- ✓ More hair than Dad
- ✓ Handles extremely well
- ✓ Excellent maternal instincts
- ✓ Top 1% milking ability

Damien and Nikki Hawker,  
Omad Stud, welcomed their  
daughter, Rosie, on 22 June.



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# BARINGA

Ian: 0427 363 566



**19W031**

Sire: Baringa 'MAGNUM'  
16W300  
SOD: Booloolo 150066



**19W209**

Sire: Baringa 18W042  
SOD: Baringa 'TRIUMPH'  
15W404 ET



**19W002**

Sire: Baringa 'PACKAGE'  
17W005 ET  
SOD: Tatykeel 'ECLIPSE'  
12W262



**19W028**

Sire: Baringa 'MAGNUM'  
16W300  
SOD: Baringa 13W151



**19W035**

Sire: Kurralea 170325  
SOD: Tatykeel 'CHARGER'  
12W110



**19W039**

Sire: Baringa 'MAGNUM'  
16W300  
SOD: Illoura 151431



**19W043**

Sire: Kurralea 170325  
SOD: Premier 13P035



**19W051 ET**

Sire: Baringa 'PACKAGE'  
17W005 ET  
SOD: Tatykeel 'ECLIPSE'  
12W262



**19W057 ET**

Sire: Premier  
'MEAT MACHINE' 17P015  
SOD: Tatykeel 12W126



**19W094**

Sire: Baringa 17W178  
SOD: Baringa 'POWER'  
13W532



**19W111**

Sire: Premier  
'MEAT MACHINE' 17P015  
SOD: Illoura 140521



**19W122**

Sire: Baringa 'MAGNUM'  
16W300  
SOD: Tatykeel 'ECLIPSE'  
12W262



**19W124**

Sire: Illoura 151431  
SOD: Baringa 'OPTIMUM'  
13P033



**19W165**

Sire: Kurralea 170622  
SOD: Premier 13P035

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OBAS CW99/20





*Pictured: Gundagai Meat Processors chief executive Will Barton says DEXA is providing valuable information to the supply chain.*

## DEXA's potential to 'revolutionise' industry

By Joely Mitchell

In the past four years, NSW's Gundagai Meat Processors has revolutionised its processing facility to now boast one of the most advanced lamb carcase chillers in the world.

And a big part of the state-of-the-art plant is the use of DEXA - or Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry - to measure lean meat yield, fat and bone percentages in the one million lambs they slaughter each year.

Chief executive of the Gundagai facility Will Barton said the \$2.5 million investment - of which \$900,000 was funded by Meat & Livestock Australia - was "massive", but worthwhile to be able to provide feedback along the supply chain.

"As a processor, we see we have a really critical role to play in the supply chain," Mr Barton said.

"You need the feedback to get from the consumer to the producer, so they know what to grow and what attributes [consumers] are looking for, and our role is using this technology to do so."

Murdoch University Associate Professor Graham Gardner, who is a leading meat science researcher, has described DEXA technology as the "Holy Grail" of the sheep industry.

Dr Gardner said if fully implemented, the combination of objective carcase measurements and robot cutting was estimated to produce as much as \$420 million a year in extra value for the industry.

"In Australia, the bulk of lamb producers end up trading lamb on the basis of carcase weight, and they can vary a great deal in terms of the amount of saleable meat that's in them," he said.

"DEXA uses x-rays to determine how much bone, muscle and fat is in a carcase, providing a measurement of lean meat yield."

The technology originally came from Scott Automation in New Zealand, who developed a robot that was cutting lamb carcasses into three parts using an x-ray image.

"So, the question was how could we adapt that x-ray image to work out the composition of that carcase?" he said.

Dr Gardner is part of the ALMTech project, which was established in 2016 to specifically look at the development of lean meat yield technology.

"Our job is to try and take better measurements to better quantify what's in the animal to help the value transactions occur right from conception to consumption of the animal," he said.

With two years of the project to go, he said the plan was to commercialise five lamb DEXA systems within abattoirs by the end of it.

Currently DEXA technology is used in JBS abattoirs at Bordertown, SA, and Brooklyn, Vic, and two more are currently being built.

He said they had done a lot of work to demonstrate the robustness and repeatability of the system.

"If you took the same carcase to two different abattoirs, you want there to be an alignment in scans," he said.

"The other thing you want to know is if you scan a set of carcasses, can you get the same answer multiple times

Offering the following rams at

**Adelaide Elite Sale** 6th Sept  
and

**The Elite White Suffolk and Suffolk Sale**  
on Auctions Plus 30th Aug

ID	SIRE	BWT	WWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	TCP
190454	Wakefield Park 160147	0.30	9.1	14.9	0.3	3.8	151.7
190705	Booloolo 170093	0.17	11.3	17.8	-0.3	2.7	148.1
190719	Somerset 170147	0.33	9.6	15.9	0.1	4.5	159.4
190754	Booloolo 170093	0.14	11.4	18.5	-0.1	2.8	148.3
190786	Somerset 160067	0.39	10.2	16.8	0.5	3.9	161.4

The boys have gone into lockdown for their sale preparations.

**ANNUAL RAM SALE** 13th Oct

Held On-Property at Wakefield Park, Cavendish

Follow us on Facebook for further  
updates and videos closer to the sale dates

Kylie Wake

Ph: 0428 508 995

E: kyliewake18@gmail.com



/Wakeleigh.WhiteSuffolks.941/



in a row? We did this five times and got pretty much the same answer every go.

"We then grabbed a group and scanned them on Monday, then on Tuesday morning and afternoon, then on Wednesday, and effectively we got a really good prediction of the carcasses' fat percentage right across the week."

He said the continued research and trials of the DEXA systems would give the supply chain the ability to make decisions on how to cut carcasses to meet specific market demands.

"And if you optimise how you target those carcasses for different markets that are out there you can optimise the amount of money you can make," he said.

The data coming out of GMP is plentiful and Mr Barton said they were keen to expand on it.

"In the next month we'll be launching Health 4 Wealth, where we will monitor 20 significant health conditions across lamb species and be able to provide individual feedback by carcase, so producers can take the information and get an understanding on whether say arthritis is driving yield loss or weight loss when they're taken to slaughter," he said.

And he said intramuscular fat (IMF) was the next phase.

"We know IMF has an important role in understanding eating quality and obviously now that we're able to accurately predict the lean meat of a carcase, the next critical element is understanding IMF," he said.

"If we can understand our IMF, we can grade our premium cuts and carcasses.

"If we can give farmers feedback on IMF, they can improve the quality of their livestock and get paid more money."

He said it had taken four years to get to the point they were at now and it wasn't something that "just happened overnight".

"It does take an extremely large amount of commitment from a business," he said.

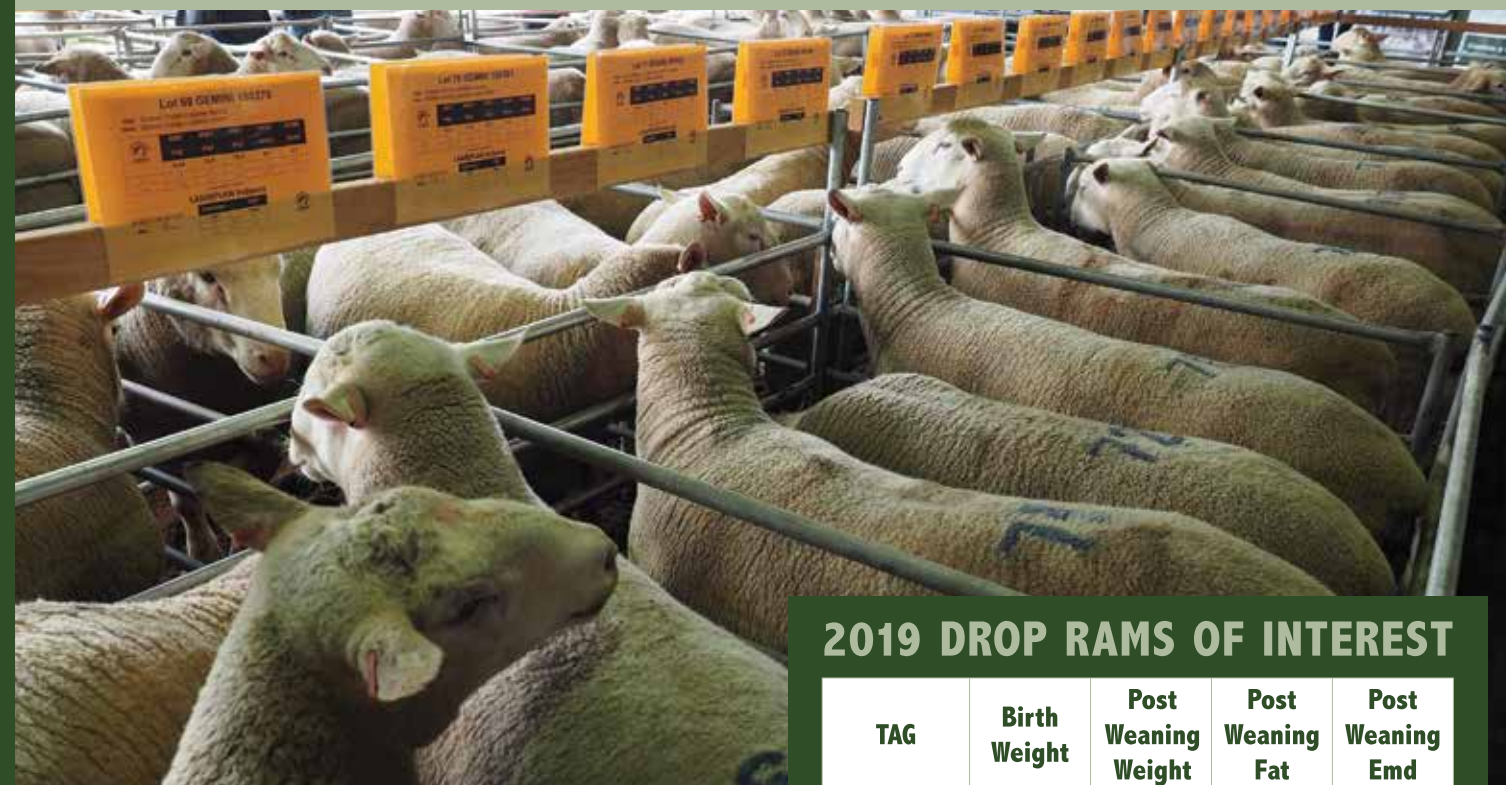
And he said there were two critical ingredients you needed to be able to turn your data into meaningful information.

"The first is intelligence, you need the right tools and people to interpret the data," he said.

"And the second is infrastructure to be able to turn that information into actionable results."

# GEMINI WHITE SUFFOLKS

## STRUCTURE AND STATISTICS



### 2019 DROP RAMS OF INTEREST

TAG	Birth Weight	Post Weaning Weight	Post Weaning Fat	Post Weaning Emd
190044	0.27	18.04	-0.63	2.70
190048	0.37	18.93	-0.32	2.68
190059	0.28	17.79	-0.48	2.80
190062	0.42	17.56	-0.28	2.38
190066	0.39	18.68	-0.10	2.81
190087	0.46	17.95	-0.49	2.53
190110	0.27	17.55	-0.14	2.70
190147	0.10	17.39	0.62	3.77
190163	0.04	15.75	0.23	3.71
190226	0.24	17.66	0.23	3.30
190267	0.22	17.48	0.17	2.81
190278	0.38	16.28	-0.45	2.17
190303	0.14	16.04	0.56	2.59
190345	0.11	15.74	0.15	2.75
190389	0.45	21.65	-0.93	1.56
190397	0.07	14.76	1.03	3.33
190434	0.29	16.30	0.22	2.45
190436	0.19	19.04	0.44	4.12
190450	0.06	18.63	-0.12	2.65
190465	0.19	19.12	0.32	1.97

### COMING UP SOON - SPRING SALE

**14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2020. Sale at 12.30pm.**


**Inspections from 10.30am**

*Want a catalogue? Email us at [info@geminiprimelamb.com.au](mailto:info@geminiprimelamb.com.au)*

### INSPECTIONS WELCOME ANYTIME CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Gemini White Suffolks: The Mitchell Family  
"Riverview" 610 Urches Rd, Werneth VIC 3352

Craig Mitchell - 0419 331 435

 /geminivhitesuffolkstud

[www.geminiprimelamb.com.au](http://www.geminiprimelamb.com.au)

Watch our website and social media for updates, videos and information about the sale.



MN3 Gudair vaccinated  
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# GEMINI

## Prime Lamb Sires



**Monday 24th August**  
**1:00pm WST, at Williams**

Sale interfaced with 

OUTSTANDING SELECTION OF INDUSTRY LEADING GENETICS

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# ELLA MATTA

Flock No. 1 - Parndana Kangaroo Island, SA

Find out why Ella Matta is Number 1 for more than its flock number

An invitation from us ..... to you!



EM180100 ET - sold for \$29,000 to Bundara Downs, Anna Villa and Ashmore studs at 2019 sale.



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Brucellosis Free  
Certificate 856

## Next Annual Ella Matta Ram Sale

**Friday 9th October, 1pm**

Power packed performance in rams that  
have breed type, structure & repeatability

Offering 200 White Suffolk rams

including a group of specially selected rams well worth your enquiry & inspection (see next page),

40 Poll Merinos 40 Maternal Whites (Composites)

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Andrew & Tracie Heinrich: Ph: 08 8559 6107

Andrew: 0427 596 108 Jamie: 0427 361 830

Email: [ellamatta@bigpond.com](mailto:ellamatta@bigpond.com)

[www.ellamatta.com](http://www.ellamatta.com)

Agents: Elders & Nutrien

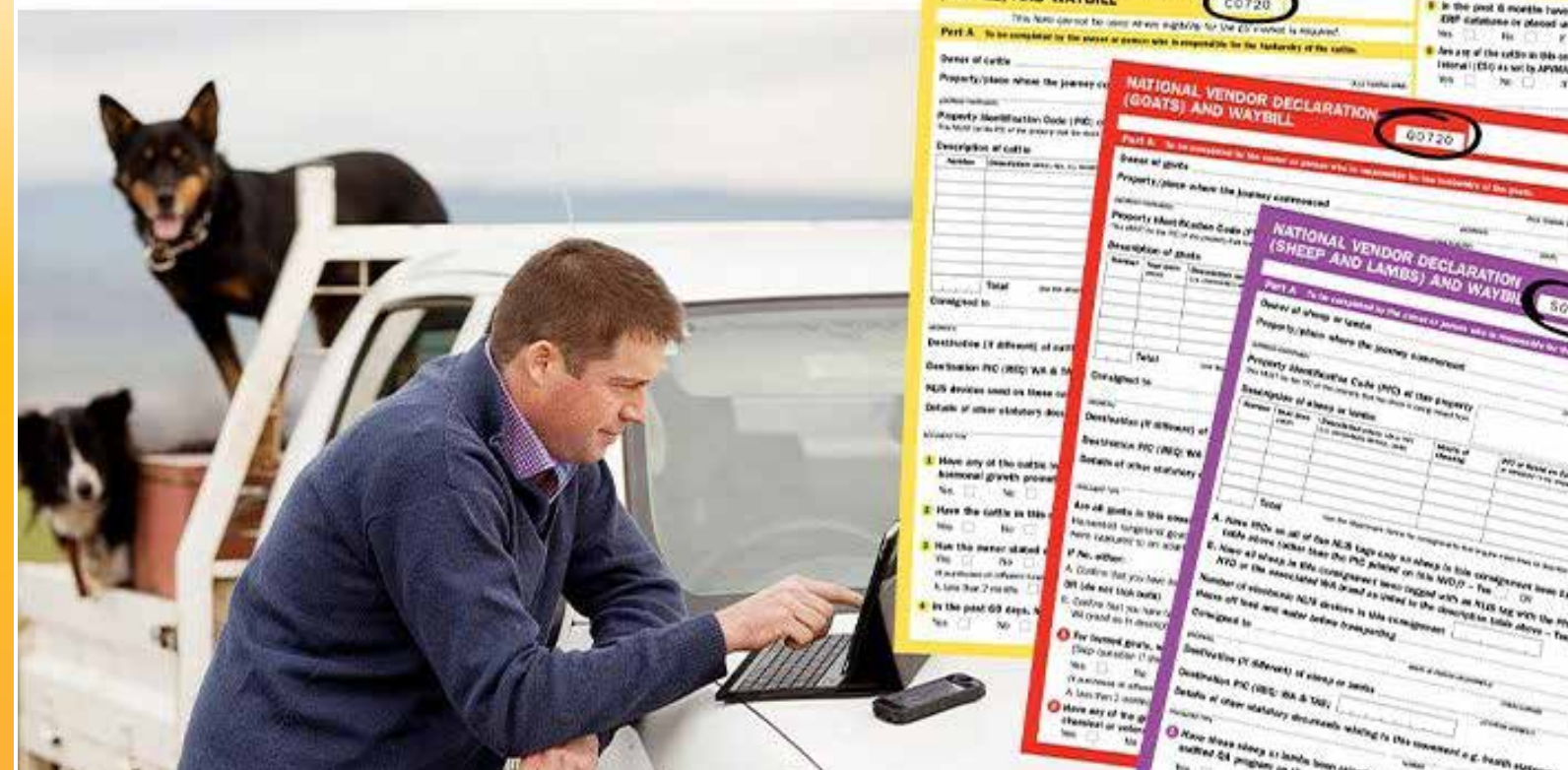
3% outside agents in writing 24 hrs before sale



white suffolk stud

**ELLAmatta**

AS & TM Heinrich poll merino stud



## Five things to know about the new NVDs

Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia

Producers will benefit from changes to the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) this year, with an easier, more efficient and cost effective system.

The NVD communicates the food safety and treatment status of every animal every time it moves along the value chain – between properties, to saleyards, or to processors.

The main changes to the NVD will streamline how supply chain stakeholders interact with Australia's red meat integrity system, and include:

- updated versions of NVD on 1 July
- the decommissioning of the eDEC system, following the release of a new Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) electronic National Vendor Declaration (eNVD) system earlier this year.

Here's what the changes mean to your business:

### 1. Why are updated versions of the NVD being released and what are the main changes?

The updated versions are the result of a review of NVD versions by SAFEMEAT in 2019.

The main changes to NVDs for all species include removal of Part C (Agent's Declaration), which is rarely used by industry and is not required for any

legislative reason, and the inclusion of a 'destination PIC' section, which is a legislative requirement in WA and Tasmania, and will be optional for other states.

Sheep NVDs include a new section for the number of electronic devices included in the consignment to accommodate the mandatory use of electronic NLIS in Victoria and its increasing use in other states.

### 2. When will updated NVDs be available?

Updated versions of the NVD for all species are available now, identified by version number 0720.

As part of the MLA Accelerated Adoption Initiative announced in November 2019, there is no cost for NVD books until 30 June 2021.

LPA accredited producers, feedlots and value chain stakeholders who use the eNVD platform can automatically access the updated versions.

### 3. Are existing NVDs still valid?

Current versions of NVDs for all species (cattle, EU cattle, sheep and lambs, goats and bobby calves) will be accepted until 31 December 2020.

From 1 January 2021, only the updated versions of all NVDs (0720) will be accepted for all species.



4. Why use the LPA eNVD system?

The mobile friendly, LPA eNVD is the digital alternative to paper based NVDs. It is fast, easy and more accurate than paper forms.

The eNVD is not just an NVD – it's a system for completing all consignment paperwork digitally, including livestock assurance and health declarations.

5. When and why is the eDEC being decommissioned?

As the new LPA eNVD does everything an eDEC does, and in a more user friendly way, the eDEC system is being decommissioned.

Any eDEC users who have eDEC tokens on their account can use them up until 31 December 2020, when the eDEC will be decommissioned.

After 31 December 2020, users who need or want to continue using an electronic version can use the eNVD.

More information

For simple step-by-step instructions on how to use the eNVD platform view the 'How to use eNVD' video at [www.integritysystems.com.au](http://www.integritysystems.com.au)

To find out how to complete an LPA NVD watch the 'How to complete an LPA NVD' video at [www.integritysystems.com.au](http://www.integritysystems.com.au)

New NVD books can be ordered through the LPA service centre, using LPA log in details.



**ASHMORE**  
WHITE SUFFOLKS  
Genetics that Perform

2020 Stud ram offering and keeper rams will be on display. Below is a sample...

TAG	SIRE	BWT	WWT	PWT	PFAT	PEMD	IMF	SF5	LEQ	TCP
190016	Ashmore 170986	0.33	10.9	17.9	0.6	3.4	-0.4	-3.0	155	162
190196	Ashmore 170986	0.34	10.8	18.0	0.0	3.3	-0.3	0.2	155	160
190149	Ashmore 160516	0.23	10.7	17.3	0.1	3.1	0.0	-1.2	160	159
190453	Ashmore 170273	0.33	10.9	18.1	0.0	3.3	-0.3	-1.8	154	156



**VIRTUAL**  
**RAM INSPECTION DAY**

**Saturday 5th September**  
**12:00pm (SA time) via Zoom**  
Zoom link on our website & Facebook  
*We also welcome inspection by appointment*

**2020 ASHMORE ON-PROPERTY RAM SALE**  
**Monday 28th September**

10 specially selected rams and 190 flock rams all with TCP index over 147  
Auctions Plus to be used on all lots. Check website early September for catalogue, videos and photos of stud rams.

# Discovery Day!

**Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020**  
Open to current Year 5 & 6 students  
Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/607234](http://www.trybooking.com/607234)

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**you're** welcome  
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At St Paul's students engage in their learning within a vibrant, connected community away from the many distractions young people face today

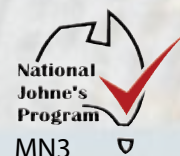
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# BUNDARA DOWNS

WHITE SUFFOLKS, POLL DORSETS & SUFFOLKS



24th Annual Production Sale

**Friday 18th September 12.30pm SA time**

On property, Western Flat, Via Bordertown

On offer: 380 rams consisting of 22 stud rams, 20 specially selected rams & 338 flock rams

White Suffolk: 6 stud, 10 selected & 230 flock

BD194274	BD194158	BD194173
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
BO170093	LH160054	BD170781
3.24	4.72	3.51
-0.30	-0.53	-0.14
3.3	2.2	0.7
143.8	160.4	150.6
139.5	153.5	148.3

BD194830	BD193916	BD193347
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
W173980	W173980	F170211
2.83	3.40	3.60
0.07	-0.03	-0.21
-2.7	-0.9	0.4
155.9	151.9	148.4
155.9	150.7	145.4

BD194326	BD195256	BD194411
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
EM170580	BD181596	EM170300
3.83	4.23	3.65
-0.60	-0.64	-0.16
3.6	2.6	0.0
145.9	152.1	155.0
138.4	144.0	152.3

Also offering 4 rams & 20 ewes at the

**Foundation Breeders Sale on 9th September 2020**

**Summer Ram Lamb Sale - 29th Jan 2021**

BD193344	BD193174	BD194664
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
YD170386	BD170781	LH160054
3.76	3.48	4.43
-0.47	-0.26	-0.38
1.9	0.3	0.6
145.8	151.7	160.8
139.7	148.0	155.6

BD195161	BD193388	BD194276
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
W173980	W173980	LH160054
3.21	2.55	4.35
0.00	0.06	-0.62
-0.1	-1.2	2.8
150.1	149.2	149.5
149.3	149.0	141.6

BD193386	BD195079	BD195016
BWT	BWT	BWT
WWT	WWT	WWT
PWT	PWT	PWT
PEMD	PEMD	PEMD
Pfat	Pfat	Pfat
Sire	Sire	Sire
YD170386	W173980	W173980
4.38	2.74	2.88
-0.51	0.07	0.07
3.3	-2.6	-2.3
152.6	155.2	155.9
146.0	155.2	155.9

Enquiries always welcome: Steve, Ros & Greg Funke, PO Box 614, Bordertown, SA 5268

Ph/Fax 08 8758 2032 Mob: Steve 0418 853 980 Ros 0448 002 758 Greg 0400 262 492

**www.bundaradowns.com.au**





# FARRER WHITE SUFFOLKS

Est. 1984 Flock No. 0139

**26th Annual On-Property Sale**  
Undercover in Farrer's Trade Training Centre, Tamworth NSW

Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 11:30am

TAG ID	SIRE	SOD	BWT	WWT	PWT	PEMD	PFAT	PWEC	LMY	IMF	SF5	LEQ
FARRER-190225*	Farrer 180177	Galaxy Park 110210	0.35	11.4	17.6	2.9	-0.6	-79	3.71	0.24	-0.3	170.4
FARRER-190111*	Felix 170761	Farrer 160077	0.38	11.9	19.8	2.9	-0.1	-60	3.23	-0.02	-3.8	168.9
FARRER-190231	Farrer 180178	Farrer 140019	0.15	11.1	17.8	3.1	-0.5	-41	3.43	0.14	-2.7	168.8
FARRER-190028*	Ashmore 150340	Millswyn 130068	0.35	11.5	18.3	2.0	-0.5	-67	3.01	0.07	-5.0	167.9
FARRER-190074*	Ashmore 150340	Farrer 150194	0.31	9.7	16.2	3.2	0.4	-61	2.39	-0.02	-5.8	167.2
FARRER-190134*	Felix 170761	Galaxy Park 110210	0.36	11.2	18.0	3.9	-0.3	-48	4.34	-0.16	-0.8	167.0
FARRER-190039	Ashmore 150340	Farrer 140019	0.31	11.5	18.8	2.1	-0.1	-63	2.64	0.00	-4.5	166.5
FARRER-190168	Ella Matta 170300	Galaxy Park 110210	0.37	10.2	17.1	3.6	0.0	-51	3.77	0.00	-1.5	165.7
FARRER-190148	Ella Matta 170300	Farrer 160077	0.27	10.9	18.0	3.3	0.0	-55	3.53	-0.16	-2.0	165.5
FARRER-190012	Ashmore 150340	Farrer 150196	0.32	11.8	18.9	2.4	0.3	-63	2.65	-0.03	-3.4	163.3
FARRER-190228	Farrer 180273	Farrer 150194	0.16	10.3	17.0	2.3	-0.5	-27	3.11	0.27	-3.2	163.1
FARRER-190005	Farrer 140019	Felix 151229	0.10	12.3	19.0	2.4	-0.8	-37	3.87	0.02	-0.6	162.3
FARRER-190032	Farrer 140019	Bundura Downs 122261	0.12	12.5	20.8	2.2	-0.3	-25	3.11	0.05	-0.8	160.2
* Farrer used to back up annual artificial insemination program			15/6/2020 Lambplan run									
Terminal Sire Average			0.29	8.9	13.6	1.7	-0.4	-18	2.95	-0.48	2.70	130.9

- 55 LambPlan Performance Recorded Rams
- All Rams are DNA parental verified
- DNA Genomic tested (IMF & SF5)
- Independent structurally assessed
- MN3 OJD Status
- Sale Catalogue / photographs on web (Late August)

**Inspection prior to the sale is most welcome**

**Darren Smith**  
[darren.smith80@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:darren.smith80@det.nsw.edu.au)  
**Agents: Garvin & Cousens**

School (02) 67648660 mobile: 0413911182  
<https://farreragri.h.schools.nsw.gov.au/agriculture-at-farrer/whitesuffolk.html>  
Andrew Warden 0467662901



## Will 2021 be the year for lamb payments on IMF and meat yield?

By Terry Sim

New South Wales lamb processor, Gundagai Meat Processors (GMP), could be paying producers on a lean meat yield basis for lambs that meet a minimum intramuscular fat (IMF) threshold by next year, if IMF measurement trials are successful.

At a recent Intercollegiate Meat Judging Association webinar on carcase yield measurement and processor integration, GMP chief executive officer Will Barton outlined the four elements of GMP's investment in the "revolution" of lamb processing, assessment and marketing.

These included DEXA lean meat yield measurement, GMP's Health4Wealth disease/defect program, intramuscular fat measurement and carcase optimisation.

Mr Barton said he hoped that within the next month or two GMP will be at the stage where it can give a "scatter graph" to a lamb supplier with hot standard carcase weight, lean meat yield and disease and defect data on individual carcasses.

"Intramuscular fat is obviously the focus of a lot of effort at the moment and that's up to the R&D guys to deliver us something that is appropriate.

"We would hope that's sooner than later."

### Payment to come for LMY at IMF minimum

Mr Barton said initially, provision of the HSCW, LMY and Health4Wealth data to producers would be for the purposes of feedback.

"Firstly, it will be just for the interest of the farmer so 'disease and defect' data can be acted to increase your own profit and lean meat yield – something that people will be interested in.

"As soon as we have an intramuscular fat measure operating with some level of accuracy on site then the first thing we will do is pay for lean meat yield where a minimum IMF percentage has been met – I think that's phase one," he said.

"I think that is potentially a calendar year 2021 kind of proposition and that paying for lean meat yield is purely because we can get better yield without compromising quality.

"So, it is assuming that the market is not going to pay any more for that article, GMP will just lose less fat during boning and we will get a better yield."

Mr Barton believed the next step in value-based payments would come when it can be demonstrated that the market is willing to pay more for product with a high IMF.



“Then we will pay on IMF and yield in combination.”

On how long it will be before an IMF measurement is implemented commercially at GMP, Mr Barton said the company is trialling an IMF measurement tool, and there are a range of methods being trialled across the industry.

“I expect over the next 3-6 months we will have a high level of insight as to how far away that is going to be.

“If the trial we are doing now is successful, I would imagine that in calendar year 2021, where lambs consigned to GMP meet a minimum IMF threshold, that we will be paying bonuses based on lean meat yield.”

Mr Barton said for the moment, producers would have to rely on genetics and genetic selection as their own safeguard for IMF, “such that when there is a measure they know that they’ve been selecting the right genetics to ensure they are on the right side of this revolution that I talk about.”

#### **GMP’s ‘hot’ DEXA fully operational for about five months**

GMP’s project to install Australia’s first ‘hot side’ DEXA unit in Australia measuring lean meat yield, fat and bone percentages started in mid-2016 and has cost \$2.5m with Meat & Livestock Australia funding about \$900,000.

He said the GMP hot side DEXA been fully operational on the slaughter floor for 18 weeks and 40-100pc of lamb carcasses processed in any week are scanned by the machine.

Mr Barton said GMP sees it has a critical role to play in getting feedback from the consumer to the producer in terms of what to breed, to grow and what attributes consumers are looking for.

He said the lamb industry is currently based around weight-based thinking and fat score or condition (within the age or dentition limits) with no quality grading.

GMP’s Health4Wealth program is the company’s second innovation, monitoring 20 significant animal health conditions in lambs, moving from mob-based estimates to individual feedback by carcass and weight.

“The critical element to this project is that we are converting what is currently mob-based estimates of different animal health conditions or defects in a carcass to individual feedback by carcass.

“So you will be able to take this information... and get an understanding of say whether arthritis is driving yield loss or weight loss in your population when you bring them to slaughter.”

Mr Barton said the third element of the GMP ‘carcass optimisation’ program would be intramuscular fat to assess eating quality.

“Obviously now that we are accurately able to forecast or predict the lean meat yield of a carcass a really critical element is to understand the intramuscular fat.”

But he urged caution, citing the New Zealand example where lean meat yield lamb payment systems based on Viascan have moved their IMF flock average down to just under 2 percent.

“We know that Australia’s (IMF flock average) is somewhere around the 4pc mark, so we need to be really mindful that before we take DEXA and use it from a producer feedback and pricing point of view that we have IMF covered.”

“And this is why it is so critical to have IMF measured and it is so critical to have all these ingredients in a single package.”

Mr Barton said if IMF can be measured, premium cuts can be graded out and farmers can be given feedback to improve their genetics and livestock quality “so that in time they can be paid for those animals.”

Mr Barton said the fourth element of the GMP system is carcass optimisation, comprising the necessary tools and staff, and the infrastructure.

“We’ve got lean meat yield at accuracy, we’ve got Health4Wealth which will be launched in the next month, and we are waiting for IMF.

“What that data-rich environment creates is the requirement for two critical ingredients to be able to turn that information into some sort of meaningful success for a business,” he said.

“The first one is intelligence – you need the right tools to be able to interpret this data and to be able to tell you what to do with the data. ALMtech’s carcass optimisation tool is a cornerstone for this.

“The other thing is you need someone internally who has the mental capacity, the intelligence, to be able to digest this and get it back into the real world, and for us that is Dr Michelle Henry, who is leading our charge in terms of being able to use this data-rich environment to our advantage.

#### **New GMP chiller and sorting system is key to carcass optimisation**

Mr Barton said the second thing needed is the infrastructure and GMP has invested heavily over the past three years in an advanced carcass chilling and sortation system involving no-touch RFID tracking of carcasses to efficiently chill and grade carcasses.

“It’s the combination of those two things, the understanding of what to do with the data that you’ve got and then being able to put action to that intelligence throughout your plant that gives you an increase in value across the entire supply chain.”

“It allows you to pay farmers in a targeted fashion for the (lamb) quality and yield they are producing, it allows you to demand more from your consumers because they understand what they are getting, and there are guarantees of that.”

Mr Barton said GMP’s former lamb chiller system involved seven chillers with ‘hot’ lambs loaded into them immediately post-slaughter, with no time to gather information about the population and with decisions being made on basis of weight and fat score. Hot and cold carcasses must be kept separate and it is very labour intensive, with no carcass tracking system beyond a tag, he said.

GMP has converted the same space into five chillers with every carcass passing through a first box post-slaughter for ‘stage one’ chilling and then into a ‘stage two’ chiller, with the others (chillers 3,4 and 5) acting as ‘sortation’ chillers, Mr Barton said.

“What that does for us, is it moves the sortation point to 2100 lambs post-slaughter and by then lambs are at about 10 degrees Celsius.

“So before we have to make our first sortation decision about any of the lambs that we have slaughtered, we know population level data – we’ve got 2100 lambs worth of information from that production run,” he said.

“By maximising that time between data capture and sortation, we are able to sort from our best-informed viewpoint.

“It overcomes the hot and cold carcass mixing issues, because every carcass that leaves the stage one and two chilling is down to about 10 degrees,” Mr Barton said.

“A carcass that is processed at two o’clock in the afternoon can be hung next to one that is processed at 6am that morning without risk of them raising the carcass temperatures, and it is 100pc no-touch, automated and RFID-tracked.”

“So those four technologies combined is really what comes together to create real advantage in the supply chain, but any one of those in isolation don’t really change the landscape, from our view.”

Mr Barton led webinar participants through a case study of lambs through DEXA assessment of lean meat yield and weight compared to defect and disease status to determine any correlations.

“The ability to understand lean meat yield and weight at a granular level and to be able to report on animal health or disease/defect data at a carcass level will give rise to (correlation) insights in a population.”

With an IMF measure, then processors can look at the relationship with LMY and carcass weight within a population, he said.

“So we can see that lean carcasses with low IMF are also lighter, and heavy carcasses with higher IMF are typically much fatter.

“There are no surprises in that data set, but the ability to be able to converse with a producer in this way and signal about what they are producing and where we want them to move is the critical piece,” he said.

The addition of animal health data showed how specific diseases and defects were spread through a population in relation to weight, meat yield and IMF, he said.





“The final point that you get to, is that if you go back to the current paradigm of weight-based thinking that we have where a light lamb goes to the Middle East, a trade lamb goes to Australian domestic and a heavy lamb goes to export, you now generate a new part of the market by bringing all these pieces of data together.

“To say that if you can deliver something that is greater than 60pc in lean meat yield and over 5pc in IMF, as two arbitrary points, then we will pay you a premium for that product on the basis that we are able to achieve a greater price in the market.”

Mr Barton said it is much more likely that a DEXA unit will become technically obsolete before it wears out, but the likely hand-held IMF units would probably be more consumable.

He believes the great challenge now is for industry to think through the impact of the cost of high versus high yielding (or low IMF versus high IMF) carcasses as compared to the current averaging system.

“The challenge really for us now is to say how do we actually ease our way into value-based marketing and how do we make sure that we have the patience to wait for an IMF measure before we start tinkering with lean meat yield, perhaps at the expense of eating quality.”

During the webinar, leading meat science researcher and Murdoch University associate professor Graham Gardner highlighted the genetic trends in the Australian sheep industry of increasing carcase weight and lean meat yield while IMF and ‘overall liking’ among consumers were tracking downwards.

He said the industry had the genetic tools to balance growth and lean meat yield with eating quality, and “switched on” breeders were starting using them, but price signals were needed to push the industry to respond properly.

**We can really stuff up the product – Gardner**

Associate professor Gardner said Mr Barton had made the crucial point that while there have been advances in measuring LMY, if the industry was sent too strong a signal on LMY and did not have the corresponding eating quality measurement in place “we can really stuff up the product.”

Mr Barton said IMF is by far the most profound single measure of eating quality, and lamb had managed well using age, weight and basic breeding. But he found the height and demand at which lamb prices have reached as disturbing.

He said the lamb genetic trends showed that there is a counter-intuitive situation “where the lamb price is following caviar, but becoming like a chicken breast”.

“You’ve got a chicken breast being incredibly high in protein with all the flavour and all the fat bred out of it and it’s pitched as the highly productive protein which is sold at a low price.

“And then you’ve got a kind of confused lamb category that on hand is developing itself to be more efficient in production, higher LMY and higher weight and still trying to hang onto this price premium for this product that’s got different attributes.”

He said the impact of eating quality measurements will lead more to a revolution than an evolution among breeders and in the industry.

“I think very quickly once this tech is in play, we will see big changes in the attitudes around genetics and markets.”

Associate professor Gardner said research indicates IMF accounted for about 30pc of the variation in eating quality.

“In the data that we’ve got, it’s a monster.”



*Pictured above: Monash University Associate Professor, Graham Gardner*



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Fairburn 180567	Finn	0.4	10.9	16.1	-0.5	2.1	142.9
Booloola 170093	Shane	0.0	11.2	18.0	0.0	2.5	143.1
Somerset 170147	147	0.2	10.0	16.1	0.8	5.4	162.5
Somerset 160067	67	0.3	10.0	16.9	1.0	4.5	166.1

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Peter Angus Mb 0408 826 009  
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Lachie McCrae Mb 0418 540 790  
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## MLA's five-year focus on impact and transformational change

Courtesy of Meat & Livestock Australia

Delivering transformational change for Australia's red meat and livestock industry is the key theme throughout Meat & Livestock Australia's Strategic Plan 2025, released by the red meat marketing and research body.

It charts the direction of Meat & Livestock Australia's (MLA) investments for the next five years and was developed following significant consultation using a design-led approach with representatives from across the red meat supply chain.

With a focus on delivering 'fewer, bigger and bolder' programs of work, the plan shows where MLA will focus its efforts to ensure red meat producers will see a positive return on their levy investment.

Building on strong industry fundamentals, the plan focuses on helping producers (and their supply chains) make better decisions informed by data, driving efficiencies in the delivery of MLA's core services, and identifying new ways to capture value and increase profitability through new revenue streams and developing high value products.

MLA Managing Director, Jason Strong, said that while MLA's strategy capitalises on the many existing opportunities for Australian red meat, it also looks to tackle new challenges in a constantly evolving operating environment.

"Australia's red meat and livestock industry is in good shape as we embark on this next critical future phase for our industry," Mr Strong said.

"Our products have a reputation for being the best in world. We are trusted by consumers – who are more interested than ever about how their food is produced – because of the positive way we treat and trace our livestock."

As a key focus to successfully deliver the strategy, MLA will increase investment in:

### 1. Adoption and extension

MLA's strategy sees a significant increase in the funds allocated to adoption and extension activities. MLA programs will have clear adoption and extension pathways helping to ensure that red meat producers can successfully implement practical R&D solutions for their farm businesses.

### 2. Programs that support red meat industry integrity systems

MLA's Strategic Plan 2025 highlights the importance of strengthening existing systems in support of

biosecurity, food safety and traceability. It also highlights the importance of activities that accelerate data capture, end to end supply chain verification and knowledge transfer within the supply chain to support business decision making.

The plan also sees a focus on ensuring MLA investments contribute to a socially, environmentally and economically sustainable Australian red meat industry. MLA will increasingly focus on programs of work that help producers be more productive while adapting to climate variability, delivering world-leading animal health and welfare outcomes and adopting Carbon Neutral 2030 (CN30) pathways, demonstrated through on farm practice change to deliver a global competitive advantage.

"From a global marketing perspective, Australia's red meat industry has a fantastic story to share," Mr Strong said.

"MLA's Strategic Plan 2025 is clear in its ambition as we continue to drive demand for red meat, with activities informed by data, evidence and insights.



**Strategic Plan  
2025**



“For MLA’s research and development work, we will continue to push our industry forward by building on-farm productivity through improved adoption of research outcomes. We must build more sophisticated and efficient supply chains, with a shared commitment from all of industry.

“This Strategic Plan highlights MLA’s contribution to the red meat industry’s long-term vision to double the value of red meat sales by 2030 and for Australia to be the trusted source of the highest quality protein, as laid out in Red Meat 2030. It will also play an important role in taking Australian agriculture to a \$100 billion industry by 2030.

“Our ambition was to build a plan that ensures MLA can capitalise on those areas where we already have a competitive advantage but also asking some tough questions about what we can do better for producers and how we can turn today’s challenges into tomorrow’s opportunities.”

The development of MLA’s Strategic Plan 2025 started by first identifying key high impact initiatives that have already played a major role in transforming industry and using them as the foundation for which to build the plan.

“The establishment of Australia’s on farm assurance, animal identification and traceability systems are a good example,” Mr Strong said.

“Thanks to the development and continuous improvement of these systems, we have been able to guarantee the

integrity of our \$28.5 billion red meat industry to our customers. As part of our strategic planning we were able to be creative in thinking how we can further build and enhance these programs to build a more prosperous industry.

“Another example is Meat Standards Australia (MSA), the world’s leading eating quality grading program for beef, and the work to support access to international markets, which has been critical to the growth and competitiveness of our industry.

“What these examples show us is to have real impact, we need to be focused, ambitious with our expectations and demand greater impact from the investments we make. However, success will ultimately be measured by the ability of red meat producers to create and capture additional value from these investments.

“For MLA, we will continue to target major strategic challenges to ensure that higher risk but higher reward investments are not being overlooked.

“To be successful, it was important that this strategy focused not just on what we will do, but how we will do it. We developed guiding principles that will ensure MLA is well placed to deliver transformational change and maximise our impact.”

To view MLA’s Strategic Plan 2025, visit [www.mla.com.au](http://www.mla.com.au)



## Member News - Sean Colin Donnelly

Congratulations to Colin and Chelsea Donnelly (nee Piggott) on the birth of Sean Colin Donnelly on the 8th of June.

Sean is the first grandchild for Allan and Sue Piggott, Illoura Stud.



## TO A SMITHSTON RAM



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# Allendale stalwart receives OAM

By Quinton McCallum

Graham "Harry" Day, a successful and humble sheep and cattle breeder from Bordertown, was the worthy recipient of an Order of Australia Medal in the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

While Mr Day was "absolutely amazed and shocked" to receive the medal for services to the livestock industry, those in the industry and involved with the Royal Adelaide Show thought the recognition was thoroughly deserved for the Allendale stalwart.

"I'm grateful and it's a great honour," Mr Day said.

"My family's been involved in agriculture for a long time and it's my life's work."

Graham's father Allen E Day founded the Allendale stud business in 1931, with the purchase of Suffolk ewes.

Allendale would grow to incorporate Tamworth and Landrace pigs - dispersed in 1960 when the family moved to Bordertown - Poll Hereford cattle, and Poll Dorset and White Suffolk sheep, and has become one of the premier stud operations in the country.

Even with the success of his Allendale stud, Graham has always found time to give back to the industry he holds so dear, by serving on countless committees.

He was the Australian Poll Dorset Association president, chairman and life member of the Australian Society of Stud Sheep Breeders, president of the Suffolk Sheep Society of SA, and life member of the Australian Stud Sheep Breeders Association and South Australian Poll Hereford Breeders.

Graham also received a Distinguished Service Award with the Australian White Suffolk Association Inc in 2010 for his vision, effort, and dedication to the White Suffolk breed.

Looking back on a lifetime in the livestock industry, Graham said the friendships were what he cherished most.

"I can remember my father saying when I was only a teenager 'there's probably other professions where you'll make more money, but if you're involved in this industry you'll meet so many interesting people from all walks of life and from all around the world'," he said.

Graham's wife Prue said he had been a great mentor for young people and always took interest in other breeds he was not necessarily involved with.



***Pictured above: Graham Day, with wife Prue, was humbled to receive an Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.***

Elders' former national stud stock manager Tony Dowell said Graham's authentic character was just one of the attributes that made him a worthy recipient of an OAM.

"There wouldn't be anybody in the industry - and it's rare in this industry - that wouldn't have a favourable word to say about Graham," he said.

"He's universally admired and accepted."

Mr Dowell knew Graham through his role as national stud stock manager for Elders from 1984 to 2013.

"I'd go down to Allendale two or three times a year, I sold rams and bulls for him at major sales - it's been a long association," he said.

"Graham is an extraordinarily good judge of all the breeds of sheep he's involved in, he's an extraordinarily good judge of Poll Hereford cattle and has one of the best herds of cattle, and two of the best flocks of sheep, in Australia.

"He's judged at major Royal shows in every state in the country with great aplomb and great success. He's bred some of the very best Poll Hereford bulls the industry has seen.

"The thing that really makes him stand out is that he's such a decent, decent person and he's always been willing to help young people improve their own knowledge, aptitude and stock handling ability."

It's this involvement with future breeders and young people making their mark, which makes Graham optimistic about the future of the livestock industry.

"The industry is in great shape," he said.

"Stud breeding, sheep breeding and cattle breeding is more scientifically-based than it once was but I'm still sure eye appeal and the judgement of animals for correct structure and so on will be very important moving forward."

81-year-old Graham's sons, Lachy and Alastair, are carrying on the family stud breeding tradition with Days Whiteface and Allendale.

Graham is still actively involved with the day-to-day work at the farm and still attends many sales and shows.

The show scene is another area where Graham has excelled, as an exhibitor, worker, sheep and beef cattle judge and chairman of the sheep committee.

He has not missed a Royal Adelaide Show since 1947, saying it was an important advertising medium for the stud, but also a way to give back to the industry through judging and volunteering.

President of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of SA from 1993 to 2004, Jock Duncan said he had enjoyed a long association with Graham since serving together on the pastoral committee of the Royal Adelaide Show.

"I've always regarded Graham as a dedicated stockman with both sheep and cattle, and I was thrilled to learn he received an OAM," he said.

"Graham has the ability to judge any breed of sheep and cattle, his knowledge is so broad."

While Graham has handed the reins over to the next generation, he and Prue show no signs of slowing.

"We still enjoy the involvement in the industry," he said.

"A lot of our good friends are sheep and cattle people.

"We plan to keep in touch with as many people as we possibly can, and keep attending shows and important breed sales."

## AUSTRALIAN WHITE SUFFOLK ASSOCIATION 2021 National Conference

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[www.lakehumeresort.com.au](http://www.lakehumeresort.com.au)

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## Showing off White Suffolk History

Without the opportunity to include results of White Suffolk shows around the country in 2020, we've gone back to our archives and found the Champion winners at Sydney Royal, NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo) and the Australian Sheep & Wool Show (Bendigo) for 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2015.

We've also thrown in the Champions from the 2000 National Show held at the Dookie Field Days for those that love a little bit of history.

# 2000

### Dookie Field Days



**CHAMPION RAM**  
IG & JO Pfeiffer, 'Burwood', SA



**CHAMPION EWE**  
DJ & MJ Pipkorn, 'Detpa Grove', VIC



**RESERVE CHAMPION RAM &  
RESERVE CHAMPION EWE**  
CV & DC Shillabeer, 'Wingamin', SA

### Sydney Royal Easter Show

Judge: David Pipkorn, Detpa Grove



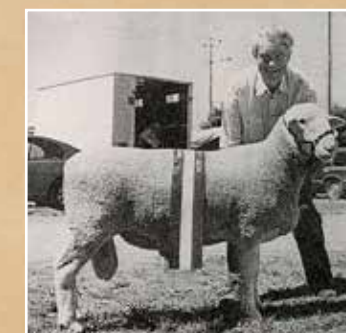
**CHAMPION RAM - SYDNEY & DUBBO**  
SA & EM Woodley, 'Kurraview', NSW



**CHAMPION EWE**  
BN & HF Stanford, 'Merton', NSW

### Australian Sheep & Wool Show (Bendigo)

Judge: Graeme Oxley, Wyndamah



**CHAMPION RAM**  
R, E & D Hooper, 'Vortex', VIC

**CHAMPION EWE**  
S Baker, 'Booloola', VIC  
- No photo available

### NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo)

Judge: Paul Kurtz, Cowobbee

Champion Ram was won by SA & EM Woodley, 'Kurraview' and Champion Ewe awarded to BN & HF Stanford, 'Merton' with the same exhibits awarded at Sydney - see Sydney photos.

SA & EM Woodley went onto win the Interbreed Champion Ram at Dubbo.



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M 195055	ST 170147 tw	30-6-19	0.5	10.5	16.0	0.1	3.1	148.7

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# Showing off White Suffolk History

*Sydney Royal Easter Show*

Judge: Ian Turner, Renrut



**CHAMPION RAM**

I & D Gilmore, 'Tattykeel', NSW  
 (now Baringa)



**SIRE'S PROGENY GROUP  
INCLUDING CHAMPION EWE**  
 D & W Duffy, 'Wanden', NSW

2005

*Australian Sheep &  
Wool Show (Bendigo)*

Judge: Doug Mitchell, Rene  
 Approximately 100 White Suffolks  
 exhibited, 11 exhibitors



**CHAMPION RAM**

HJ & MA Whittlesea, 'Hayelle', VIC

*NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo)*

Judge: Graham Day, Allendale  
 170 White Suffolks exhibited, 17 exhibitors

**CHAMPION RAM**  
 EC & JE Dixon, 'Ashbank'

**RESERVE CHAMPION RAM**  
 M & J Yates, 'Kubura'

**CHAMPION EWE**  
 EC & JE Dixon, 'Ashbank'

**RESERVE CHAMPION RAM**  
 RJ & YM Bryson, 'Allen Gate'



Chief steward Scott Woodley, with  
 Graham Day (judge) and Daryl Dixon



**CHAMPION & RESERVE  
CHAMPION EWE**  
 EC & JE Dixon, 'Ashbank', NSW



Yanco Ag Students with some of their  
 2005 show team



# Showing off White Suffolk History

## 2010

### Sydney Royal Easter Show

Judge: Graeme Collins, Merribrook



**CHAMPION RAM &  
SUPREME ALL BREEDS**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Tattykeel', NSW  
(now Baringa)



**CHAMPION EWE &  
SUPREME ALL BREEDS**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Tattykeel', NSW  
(now Baringa)



**SUPREME ALL BREEDS GROUP**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Tattykeel', NSW  
(now Baringa)

### Australian Sheep & Wool Show (Bendigo)

Judge: Graham Wilson, Kismet  
189 White Suffolks exhibited, 21 exhibitors



**GRAND & SENIOR CHAMPION RAM  
& SUPREME EXHIBIT**  
A & M Dissegna, 'Warburn', NSW



**JUNIOR & RESERVE JUNIOR  
CHAMPION RAM**  
J & M Jamieson, 'Wattle Park', NSW

**CHAMPION EWE**  
EC & JE Dixon, 'Ashbank'  
- No photo available

**RESERVE CHAMPION RAM**  
D, I & S Mitchell, 'Rene', NSW  
- No photo available

### NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo)

Judge: Craig Mitchell, Gemini  
141 White Suffolks exhibited, 19 exhibitors



**CHAMPION RAM**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Tattykeel', NSW  
(now Baringa)



**CHAMPION EWE**  
S & E Woodley, 'Kurraview', NSW



# YANCO WHITE SUFFOLKS



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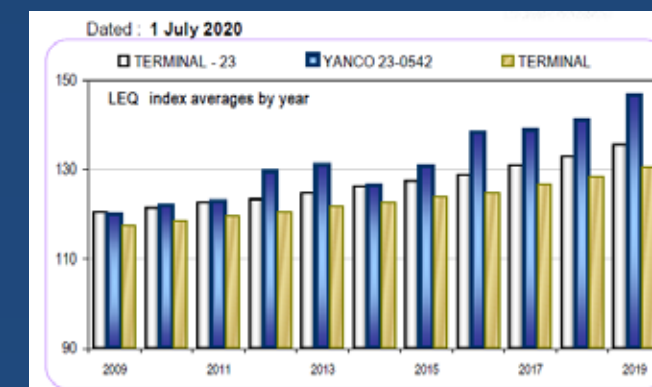
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Yanco 180140 (APP) top-priced ram 2019,  
sold to Induro & Booloolo White Suffolks





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Prime Lamb Sires  
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SOUTH SUFFOLK WHITE SUFFOLK  
EST:1978 EST: 2000

Grant & Debbie BINGHAM

Mb: 0429 851 028  
Email: iveston8@bigpond.com



**Perth Royal Show Sale**  
Friday 2nd October



**Elite Sale at Williams**  
Monday 24th August



**Williams Stud Breeders Sale**  
Wednesday 7th October

## SIRES REPRESENTED

	BWT	WWT	PWWT	FAT	EMD	TCP
Yonga Downs 170012	0.44	9.5	15.7	0.7	2.3	143.4
Leahcim 170520	0.23	9.3	15.0	-1.3	1.8	135.2
Anna Villa 170025	0.32	9.8	15.3	-1.1	1.8	141.7
Warburn 150400	0.26	8.4	13.0	-0.3	2.9	140.0



# Showing off White Suffolk History

*Sydney Royal Easter Show*

Judge: Andrew Frick, Gypsum Hill



**CHAMPION RAM**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Baringa', NSW



**CHAMPION EWE**  
I & D Gilmore, 'Baringa', NSW

*NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo)*

Judge: Paul Day, Sunnybanks  
141 White Suffolks exhibited, 19 exhibitors



**CHAMPION RAM**  
EC & JE Dixon & Sons, 'Ashbank', NSW  
Daryl Dixon pictured with Bromar  
representative Mark Liebich and judge Paul Day



**CHAMPION EWE**  
A & M Dissegna, 'Warburn', NSW

# 2015

*Australian Sheep & Wool Show (Bendigo)*

Judge: Paul Routley, Almondvale



**SUPREME WS EXHIBIT & GRAND CHAMPION RAM**  
CV & DC Shillabeer, 'Wingamin', SA



**CHAMPION EWE & ASWS SUPREME PRIME LAMB EXHIBIT**  
D, I & S Mitchell, 'Rene', NSW



## Brassica mix gets a tick for rotational grazing

By Olivia Calver

Ben Thorpe of Molly Downs Farms at Glen Innes says Winfred forage brassica has been a great fit for his new rotational grazing system.

Mr Thorpe runs White Suffolk ewes at his Glen Innes property and said he began rotational grazing in order to build a more sustainable winter feed regime so he didn't have to hand-feed during dry periods.

"I do holistic grazing management - I have a set of yards basically in the centre of the place and I move all my sheep through the yards into a different paddock every three days," Mr Thorpe said.

The five paddocks wrap around the yards like a segment of a pie graph with a gate from the yards leading to each one.

"The forage brassica works really well with my management because with rotating stock every three days, the brassica gets at least a nine-day break in between grazing," he said.

Mr Thorpe is a no till operator and aerial seeded the brassica in a mix which also included fescue, white clover and tonic plantain, on 22 February 2020.

The other paddocks in his rotational grazing system have native grasses, turnips, radishes and red clover.

Mr Thorpe said under-sowing the brassica mix in a paddock with native grasses gave the ewes the dry matter they needed.

"When you're dealing with brassicas you've usually got to have bales of straw in the paddock or a run off paddock with native or straw grasses," he said.

"But, because I sow under the existing native grasses, the sheep still have access to dry matter and I don't need a run off paddock."

The native grasses also helped to protect the brassica while it was germinating.

Mr Thorpe said he chose the Winfred brassica variety because it could be operated on a minimal rainfall of around 500 millimetres.

"I make sure only about 35 per cent of the total forage is eaten, the guides tell you it should be at 65 per cent, but I'm doing it for sustainable grazing for ewes, not fattening lambs, so I run it a bit differently.

"But the ewes have increased weight on it, the fescue has had an impact on weight gain too."



*Pictured above: Ben Thorpe of Molly Downs Farms at Glen Innes with the brassica mix he under-sowed to form part of his rotational grazing system for his White Suffolk ewes.*

Mr Thorpe said after four grazings, the brassica was still 30 to 60 centimetres in height.

However, he did expect growth to slow down in July, when the heavier frosts set in.

Mr Thorpe said once the brassica growth slowed he would rotate his ewes back onto paddocks with turnips, radishes and red clover for an extra couple of days. He also planned to lamb on the red clover mix.

"I'll lamb in the first week of July, so I'll stop rotating," Mr Thorpe said.

"I'll leave the ones with lambs with the alpacas, and I'll drift off the ones that haven't lambed into the next paddock.

"I'll keep on doing that until they've all lambed and can run in the one mob."

Brassica has also been planted at Mr Thorpe's other property, Woodbine, located at Stannum, 55 kilometres north of Molly Downs. It is there that he runs fine wool Merinos.

"It's about two to three degrees warmer," he said.

"I planted brassica there on April 12 and it hasn't grown much.

"It's come up to about five to 10 centimetres in height and it's gone dormant.

"I will graze sheep on the paddocks as soon as spring breaks, which in turn will give me the extra nutrition load needed for lambing my Merino ewes".

# THE ELITE WHITE SUFFOLK & SUFFOLK Show & Sale



Showcasing a Quality lineup  
of WHITE SUFFOLKS and  
SUFFOLKS.



## ONLINE SALE ONLY



## 2020 ONLINE SALE 30th August 2020 at 12 noon held via AuctionsPlus



Open to ALL White Suffolk & Suffolk Members  
**Entries open 10 July and close 31 July**  
Visit [www.whitesuffolk.com.au](http://www.whitesuffolk.com.au) for more information and entry

Due to the current situation in Victoria, the Elite Show & Sale Committee have been forced to cancel its 2020 Show and move the 2020 Elite Sale to an online auction.  
We're looking forward to the quality line up of genetics on offer and thank all exhibitors and followers for their patience with making a decision on the 2020 event.



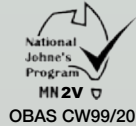
ENQUIRIES TO SHANE BAKER p) 0439 752 576  
or NIKKI WARD p) 0488 018 765  
e) [eliteshowsale@gmail.com](mailto:eliteshowsale@gmail.com) w) [whitesuffolk.com/bendigo](http://whitesuffolk.com/bendigo)





Brayden: 0409 363 524

Lachlan: 0419 363 523



OFFERING 6 RAMS AT  
**THE BARINGA SUPERIOR SELECT SALE**  
28TH SEPTEMBER 2020

19P001 ET



19P009



**SIRE:** Premier 'MEAT MACHINE' 17P015 | **SOD:** Baringa 'TRIUMPH' 15W404 ET

**SIRE:** Baringa 'MAGNUM' 16W300 | **SOD:** Anna Villa 080379

19P014



19P015



**SIRE:** Premier 'DYNOMO' 15P021 | **SOD:** Baringa 'TRIUMPH' 15W404 ET

**SIRE:** Premier 'MEAT MACHINE' 17P015 | **SOD:** Booloolo 150066

19P019



19P024



**SIRE:** Premier 'MEAT MACHINE' 17P015 | **SOD:** Depta Grove 160297

**SIRE:** Kurralea 170622 | **SOD:** Booloolo 150066

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