Around the Studs

Riverina Merino studs and clients have continued to do well in the show ring and sales this year:

At **AVENEL** Merino Stud Colin and Amanda McCrabb's Avenel blood team is in overall 3rd ranking after the first shearing of the Craig Wilson Livestock Wether Trial shorn at Wagga in April. Their 2003 drop wethers had the highest Clean Fleece Weight, second highest Fleece Value and rank fifth on Estimated Carcass Value. This bloodline comparison exercise comprises 27 teams representing 14 leading bloodlines.

Other Riverina Merino bloodlines represented in the trial are **EAST LODDON** and **HAZELDEAN**. The trial was set up to evaluate Merino bloodlines used in Victoria for traits that are important to producers with guidelines that fairly evaluate the studs represented.

News from the **F.S.FALKINER STUDS** demonstrate good news all round: **BOONOKE** Ram 2.218 was awarded the prestigious 2004 Dubbo Rabobank National Merino Sheep Show Supreme Exhibit in August 2004 after being named the Champion Medium Wool Ram and Grand Champion Merino Ram. 2.218 was described by one of the Dubbo judges as "a complete sire package with structural correctness and a bulky fleece of lustrous medium wool."

Other Boonoke Stud achievements at Dubbo were: Boonoke 2.135 was the Champion Strong Wool Ram; Boonoke 2.703 was the Champion Strong Wool Ewe and the Show's Reserve Champion Merino Ewe; and Boonoke had the Champion Max Smith Pair and the Elders City of Dubbo Group.

F.S.FALKINER Sydney Show successes included: Grand Champion Medium Wool Merino Ewe (Boonoke), Grand Champion Strong Wool Merino Ram (Boonoke), Reserve Grand Champion Strong Wool Merino Ram (Boonoke), Grand Champion Medium Wool Poll Merino Ram (Poll Boonoke), Reserve Grand Champion Strong Wool Poll Merino Ram (Poll Boonoke), Champion August Shorn Merino Ewe (Boonoke), Reserve Champion August Shorn Merino Ram (Boonoke), Champion August Shorn Poll Merino Ram (Poll Boonoke), 2nd Prize for NSW Merino Pair of the Year (Boonoke), 3rd Prize for Best Exhibit of Five August Shorn Merino or Poll Merino Sheep, Most Successful Medium and Strong Wool Merino and Poll Merino Exhibitor, (Boonoke), Most Successful August Shorn Merino Sheep Exhibitor (Boonoke)

The **POLL BOONOKE** Stud had the 2nd placed 2003 drop ram in Dubbo's Elders NSW Hogget Ram of the Year competition and sold the top price Poll Ram in the associated Sale for $8,000 to Richard Halliday's Callowie Poll Merino Stud at Mundulla, SA.

The top priced ram during the FSF Spring 2004 Ram Sales went to the Longmire Family's Glenelg Merino Stud at Narrandera, who purchased 3.018 from the Wanganella Stud's 11 Family for $10,000. Bill Hayes at Womboota and Harry & Eric Rowling of Ungarie opted to spend $6,000 each on the **WANGANELLA** Sire of their choice.

POOGINOOK MERINO news shows Pooginook bloodline out performing in bodyweight, greasy & clean fleece weight in the first year results at the 2004 Dookie Merino to Match run by Victoria Department of Primary Industries and the Victorian Stud Merino Breeders. Three flocks from each bloodline entered 2002 drop wethers. The Pooginook team were represented by wethers from the LJ & MJ Proctor from St Arnaud, KF Perry & Co, Bears Lagoon and BC & MJ Olive from Charlton.

UARDRY AND SIMS UARDRY continue their show success with March shorn Rams & Ewes after the Hay Merino Sheep Show. At the Aust Sheep & Wool Show in Bendigo recently the following results were achieved: Reserve Champion Strong Wool Ram for the Show, (Sims Uardry), Reserve Champion March Shorn Strong Wool Ram, (Sims Uardry), Champion March Shorn Medium Wool Ram (Uardry), Champion March Shorn Strong Wool Ewe - (Sims Uardry), March Shorn Strong Wool Ewe - any age - 1st & 3rd (Sims Uardry). In staff news, James Armstrong won the Junior Judging at Bendigo this year. Angus Munro, following on from his win at Dubbo last year, was runner up at Sydney Royal and has now taken on the Overseer's position at Uardry.

WILLANDRA clients Sleigh Pastoral topped the John Wells Memorial sale at Jerilderie last Spring fetching $166 for their 600 one-and-a-half year old ewes. This was the second year in a row that their Willandra blood ewes had topped the premier sale. The Sleighs also topped the cast-for-age section of the same sale when those ewes sold for $106. The Sleigh's Willandra blood ewes are often sought after by return buyers. The buyer of last year's cast-for-age ewes had earlier sold first-cross ewes bred from the Sleigh's dams for $215.

And **WILLANDRA** Riverina ewes make excellent prime lamb mothers. Earlier this year Chris and Jenny Davis of Thurgoona, NSW, came third in the RAS Prime Lamb CarcassCompetition. They used Ross Wells' Willandra ewes and Kismet Poll Dorset rams to produce the 27kg carcass weight with a fat score of 4.1. The lambs had a lean meat yield of 54.3% and produced 14.6kg of saleable meat for an overall premium of $3.45/kg.

At the February 2005 Urana Sheep Sale **SOMERSET** young ewes (pictured at left) topped the sale for the second year at $132.00 this year. They were outstanding for size.

Member Studs

Acacia Merino Stud
Deniliquin, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5882 5932
Principals: Chalmers Acacia Partnership

Avenel Merinos/ Avenpart Kelpies
Wanganella, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5884 7548
Principals: Ken & Mary McCrabb
Email: kmmccrabb@bigpond.com

Booabula Merinos
Wanganella, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5884 7502
Manager: Andrew Wallace

Boonoke/Poll Boonoke/ Wanganella FS Falkiner & Sons
General Manager: Bill Newton
Stud Manager: Jim Coward
Deniliquin, NSW 2710 Email: info@fsfalkiner.com.au
Phone: (03) 5884 6604

Bundaleer Merino Stud
Walla Walla, NSW 2659
Phone: (02) 6029 0128
Principals: Lieschke family

Caroonboon Merinos
Wanganella, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5884 7509
Managing Director: John Dickson

Concordia Merino Stud
Hawke's Nest, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5437 9256
Principals: Rollinson family

Coonong Merino Stud
PO Box 66, Urana, NSW 2645
Phone: (02) 6920 8002
Manager: T Holt
Email: tomholt@bigpond.com

East Loddon Merinos
Warwillah, Boorooorban, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5437 8240
Principals: Robert & Bill Hooke
Email: hooke@netcon.net.au

Edgecombe Merino Stud
Edgecombe, Berrigan, NSW 2712
Phone: (03) 5885 2616
Studmaster: Tom Pyle
Email: pyledge@iinet.net.au

Goolgumbla Merino Stud
Goolgumbla, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 7124
Principals: Rollinson family
Email: ggumbla@bigpond.com

Hazeldean/ East Bungaree Merinos
Rosevale, Hay NSW 2711
Phone: (02) 6993 1177
Manager: Tony Graham
Email: bethony@bigpond.com

Kiawarra Merino Stud
Weethalle, NSW 2669
Phone: (02) 6975 6155
Studmaster: KG Karsten

Meadow View Merino Stud
Henty, NSW 2658
Phone: (02) 6929 3701
Principals: N & A Bahr

Mulwala Merino Stud
Savernake Station
Savernake, NSW 2646
Principals: AH & K Sloane
Email: aasloane@bigpond.com

Mungadal Merino Stud
Twynam Pastoral Co
Mungadal, Hay, NSW 2711
Phone: (02) 6993 1704
Manager: R Stein
Email: rstein@twynam.com

One Oak/One Oak No. 2
PO Box 84,
Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 1269
Manager: Graham Wells
Email: oneoakpl@iinet.net.au

One Oak Poll Merino Stud
Liddle Lane,
Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 7117
Principals: AR & NL Wells
Email: oneoakpoll@iinet.net.au

Parks Merinos
Wakool, NSW, 2710
Phone: (03) 5887 2233
Principals: Ken & Pauline Parks

Pooginook Merino
Pooginook, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (02) 6954 6145
Principals: David & Gillian Taylor
Email: pooginook@bigpond.com

Somerset Merino Stud
Somerset, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 1315
Principals: DB Milthorpe & Son

The Yanko
The Yanko, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (02) 6956 1142
Principals: Cameron family
Email: theyanko@bigpond.com

Trevail Park Merinos
Coleambally, NSW, 2707
Phone: (02) 6954 6743
Principals: Terry & Heather Hogan
Email: tnhogan@dragnet.com.au

Uardry/Sims Uardry
Uardry, Hay, NSW 2711
Phone: (02) 6993 5101
Manager: Chris Bowman
Email: info@uardry.com

Willandra Merino Stud
Willandra, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 1223
Principals: RW & IJ Wells
Email: rosswells@dragnet.com.au

Willandra No. 2 Merino Stud
Wiraki, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 1258
Principals: Craig & Caroline Heath

Willurah Merinos
Willurah, Conargo, NSW 2710
Phone: (03) 5884 7500
Manager: Jock Campbell
Email: willurah@mcmedia.com.au

Woodpark Merino Stud
Woodpark, Jerilderie, NSW 2716
Phone: (03) 5886 7149
Principals: Owen & Helen Huggins
Email: Woodpark3@bigpond.com

Woodpark Poll
Eurolie, Hay, NSW 2711
Phone: (02) 6993 4616
Principals: Stephen & Carol Huggins
Email: Woodparkpoll@bigpond.com

The Riverina Merino Ram Preview is proudly supported by: Elders, Landmark, The Land, Coopers Animal Health, Merial Australia, The Rural, Elanco, The Weekly Times, The Southern Weekly, ANZ Bank, Hits & Memories 1521QN, 2RG Star FM.

Riverina Merino NEWS

2005 Riverina Merino Ram Preview

September 9
Narrandera Race Club

This year we're presenting our Riverina Merino Ram Preview event on Friday September 9 at the Narrandera Race Club. Visitors will see the best breeding stock from more than thirty top Riverina studs and will also learn first hand why there is real money in the Riverina Merino and its winning trifecta traits, - fibre, frame and fertility. Our breed has a long and dependable history of heavy wool cutters, meat producers and hearty, big-framed replacement ewes with an enviable fertility record. We work hard every day in every year to improve our breeding stock and our service to you.

As well as our stud displays, the Ram Preview event showcases several industry displays and there are also a number of events held on the day. Check out the program for the day below:

9:00am
Gates open at Narrandera Race Club with FREE ENTRY and a chance to win the $500 Elanco Cash Gate Prize which is drawn at lunchtime. There is also an on-property display at Avenel Merino Stud.

9:00am
Judging begins for Merial's Sandy Robertson Young Riverina Ambassador award and for the Landmark Pennefather Perpetual Trophy for the Best Junior Judge.

11:30am
Judging begins for the Elders Riverina Ram of the Year

12:45pm onwards
Lunchtime presentations of Awards including the Elders Clip of the Year and the Elders Riverina Ram of the Year. Drawing of the $500 Elanco Cash Gate Prize.

See page 2: *For the President's message on why the Riverina Merino is the true dual purpose Merino.*

See back cover: *For a full list of contacts and addresses for all our Member Studs.*

CHECK INSIDE FOR DETAILS OF THE

2005 Spring Ram Sale Calendar

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fibre, frame, fertility

a winning trifecta

From the President

Acacia
Avenel
Booabula
Boonoke
Poll Boonoke
Bundaleer
Caroonboon
Concordia
Coonong
East Bungaree
East Loddon
Edgecombe
Goolgumbla
Hazeldean
Kiawarra
Meadow View
Mulwala
Mungadal
One Oak
One Oak No2
One Oak Poll
Parks
Pooginook
Somerset
The Yanko
Trevail Park
Uardry/Sims Uardry
Wanganella
Willandra
Willandra No 2
Willurah
Woodpark
Woodpark Poll

Many new pages are devoted to predictions about the short and medium term outlook for meat and wool markets. In recent years, Riverina Merinos have benefited from the meat price with good excess sheep prices and strong demand for ewes and wethers. The wool price has been fairly stable with no highs and lows. The return has been within the guidelines of profit in view of cost of production.

From a Merino wool producer's perspective, Riverina Merino is full steam ahead and we're continually modifying and modernizing our thinking so as to keep abreast with market trends and demands both locally and internationally. The result is a more dual purpose Merino with an emphasis on fertility and carcass size while maintaining wool quality. What you will now see in our Ram Preview event and on-property sales is the type of merino we must breed for the future. Whilst we get together and show our breeding stock in September and October, breeding better rams is what we work hard at every day of every year.

The Riverina Merino is an industry leader demonstrated by results at sheep sales and shows Australia wide. Better feeding and management has taught us all how we can value add our existing sheep without introducing other meat breeds. From a production point of view, now is the time to rethink your sheep mix and produce some of the best wool quality and carcass Merinos.

On behalf on our association, I welcome visitors to the 2005 Riverina Ram Preview. Our focus this year will again be the unique blend of the Riverina Merino demonstrating excellence in the balance of wool and carcass traits.

DAVID TAYLOR, PRESIDENT.

Our Riverina Merino Industry Awards are held annually for young ambitious, talented people and we're proud to support them.

Merials' Sandy Robertson Young Riverina Ambassador Award

This annual Riverina Merino award enables a talented and ambitious young person who has an overall and long-term commitment to the Merino Industry to attend the renowned Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program held each July. Pictured above is the 2004 winner, Ben Chandler, from Poll Boonoke Stud.

Landmark Pennefather Perpetual Trophy for the Best Junior Judge

Riverina Merino holds this award annually and rewards a young person who can confidently judge and discuss the best of the modern Merino at our Riverina Ram Preview event in September. The prize is a three week all-expenses paid tour of New Zealand Merino Studs. Pictured above is the 2004 winner, Joshua Pumpa from Wanganella Stud.

2004 Elders Riverina Ram of the Year

This year, we're holding the prestigious and coveted Elders Riverina Ram of the Year event at lunchtime, giving our Ram Preview visitors plenty of time to talk to the contestants and stud masters about the entrants and results during the afternoon. Pictured above is the 2004 winner - Sims Uardry Manager, Chris Bowman with Elders representative Clyde McKenzie, Elders State Wool Manager Victoria/Riverina, Peter Fitzgerald, judge Richard House and the Sims Uardry winning ram.

RamSaleCalendar

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
september				1	2	3
Check out the dates below and contact our Member Studs direct for Spring On-Property Ram Sale Details:		6	7	**breeding better rams is what we do every day of every year** 8	9	10
11	12	**Willurah** (03) 5884 7500 13	**Edgecombe** (03) 5885 2616 **Mulwala** (02) 6035 9402 **The Yanko** (02) 6956 1142 14	**Coonong** (02) 6920 8002 15	**Bundaleer** (02) 6029 0128 **Avenel** (03) 5884 7548 16	17
riverina merino gets top results at shows and sales all year 18	19	20	21	22 **Right: Uardry/Sims Uardry Bendigo winners.**		24
25	**Meadow View** (02) 6929 3701 **Somerset** (03) 5886 1315 **Woodpark/W'park Poll** (03) 5886 7149 26	**Uardry/ Sims Uardry** (02) 6993 5101 27	**Willandra/ Willandra No 2** (03) 5886 1223 28	**One Oak/ One Oak No 2** (03) 5886 1269 29	**Boonoke/ Poll Boonoke/ Wanganella** (03) 5884 6604 30	
october						
www.riverinamerino.com.au 2	3	**Pooginook** (02) 6954 6145 4				
9	**One Oak Poll** (03) 5886 7117 10	11		**Left: Boonoke Ram 2.218, Dubbo Supreme Exhibit in August 2004.** 13	14	15