

Narcoota Poll Merino Stud

Dear fellow woolgrower,

We are pleased to extend to you an invitation to our 33rd Annual Ram Sale. This will be held on Thursday, the 8th of September 2016 at 1.00pm conducted by Landmark Pfitzner & Kleinig. We intend to offer 72 rams in the auction.

The April drop showed excellent growth rates with the ram tagged 5051 weighing 43 kg at weaning or day 100 and 100 kg at day 200. We subsequently mated ewes to him as a ram lamb and he has sire good progeny. My father has reluctantly agreed that he be offered for sale. This ram will be offered as lot 2 in the sale.

As we have been blessed with lambing percentages of 125 % we have not needed as many ewes. In the last few years all ewes on the property are treated as potential ram breeders. This is giving us 450 male lambs to select from to narrow down to a sale team. Hence the gradual increase in ram numbers for sale. The ewe hoggets' are also heavily selected with good lambing percentages allowing us to be very selective in choosing breeding ewes. This is allowing us to make progress towards a healthier and a productive sheep that we are hopeful will meet future market demands.

Elders district wool manager, David Fogg recently said that there are big orders in China for the broader South Australian wools. The bulk of the Australian wool clip now seems to be heading towards a lower fibre diameter. In the last 5 years our family has been aiming to select sheep with a 58s Bradford count that have good character. These two traits I believe are important to optimize fleece weight on a skin that is free of complications. We feel the sheep we are breeding have a useful balance of wool cut and produce plenty of meaty merinos given a good season.

Sire Information

EJ sired by a ram from WA, Ejandng 075006 was ranked second nationally in the Merino Superior sires in the Dual Purpose category. The progeny of EJ have displayed good growth rates and good handling wool. EJ was reared as a twin and scored well for bare breech. Fifteen of his progeny are in the sale.

Narcoota 670 this ram had a big body, bare breech, long staple testing 21 micron and a good temperament. His BBB fleece was valued at \$100 in 2014 when we displayed it at the sale. This sire has 9 rams in the sale including lot 2.

Narcoota 1604 is a son of Mernowie 518. Large ram with white wool.

Narcoota 2142 is a son of Mernowie 518. Good eye muscle depth and good fibre density.

Les is a son of the widely used AI sire Leahcim 858. Good staple length, attractive and nourished wool. .

Narcoota 3014 was the outstanding ram from the 2013 drop. Terrific fleece of 58s quality with good character and a high portion of his 200 progeny had bare breech traits. However he also bred 2 ration sheep.

Syndicate includes those progeny where the ewes were mated to the above rams however their mating group identification tags came off. So at marking I was unable to identify their lambs to a sire group.

Mulesing

The ram details include a code indicating which rams have some bare skin in the breech area. No rams were mulesed, but they were tail stripped. As a result of not mulesing about 10 % of the drop needed an extra crutch.

Test Results In the table are the average measurements of the rams listed for sale. They are similar to last year. The body measurements show that the rams used two years ago had a good balance between growth and a decent fleece. Hopefully your flocks are heading in a good productive direction with minimal culls.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 8th September.

Regards,

Tim, Lynn, Daniel and Nikki Grosser



Average Test Result	14 months	17 months
FD/Micron (8/7/16)	19.5	20
Comfort Factor %	99.1	99.1
Yield % (8/7/16)	70	71
Body Weight - kg (25/7/16)	82	94
Eye Muscle Depth - mm	39	41