



Yanta Poll Merinos & White Suffolks

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Newsletter July 2013



IMPORTANT DATES

8th July - Displaying at EP Merino Expo at Wudinna

18th July - *Bred Well Fed Well* Workshop

20th September - YANTA On-property Sale

WELCOME

What invaluable rainfall we have had in June! I hope it continues for the rest of the growing season. Long range forecasts sound positive. Onto sheep matters, the importance of selecting sires with the potential to genetically breed superior offspring to make more money for producers is paramount. It concerns me that ram sellers still support the myth that the better looking the ram, the better he will breed. This has been shown to be a poor indicator of his breeding worth. We provide information using *MerinoSelect* and *Lambplan* to provide ASBV's for a variety of traits to assist in this area. All rams are still rigorously classed visually for conformation, structure and in the case of merinos, a focus on elite wools. It is heartening that we are performing well under both *Lambplan* and *MerinoSelect* in the important economic traits (see trend graphs).

A decision has been made to only purchase rams or semen where their genetic worth has been established in *Sheep Genetics*.



On July 18th our property will be the venue for a ***Bred Well Fed Well*** workshop. These workshops have been very well received throughout Australia. I attended one at Leahcim last year and can assure you of their value. The location will be in our new shearing shed off Marshall's Road. Registrations to attend can be forwarded to me or Mary Crawford (contact details on flyer). The highly regarded Jason Tromph and Ken Solly will be the presenters.





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WHITE SUFFOLKS

Our aim at Yanta White Suffolks is still to purchase sires or semen that produce offspring that reach target weights quicker, have good eye muscle measurements and are not too lean.

Unfortunately last year's AI program using semen from two prominent sires resulted in very few lambs. The good news is that the standard visually and in *Lambplan* values, on the 2013 sale rams are the best we have achieved. The top price ram (pictured) purchased by Ian Proude last year, now has a carcass+ index of 200.6 which placed him in the top 3% of Australia for terminal breeds.



Pictured below are the Carcass+, Post Weaning Weight (PWWT) and Eye Muscle Depth (EMD) graphs demonstrating that we are still increasing our flock averages for these traits and index. These graphs compare Yanta, represented by the Blue line, with the White Suffolk Breed (Terminal 23, grey line) and with all Terminal breeds shown by the yellow bar or red dashed line. PWWT is a key indicator for growth rate and EMD is becoming increasingly important as it positively correlates with reproduction rate.

NEW SIRES USED 2013 (run date 15th June)

Ashmore 110138

- Purchased at the RAS Elite Ram Sale \$5000
- Son of **Felix 090715**
- Carcass+ Index **211** and Post Weaning Weight (PWWT) **17.4kg**
- Highest Indexed ram at Adelaide sale.



Wingamin 112462 'Trifecta' (AI)

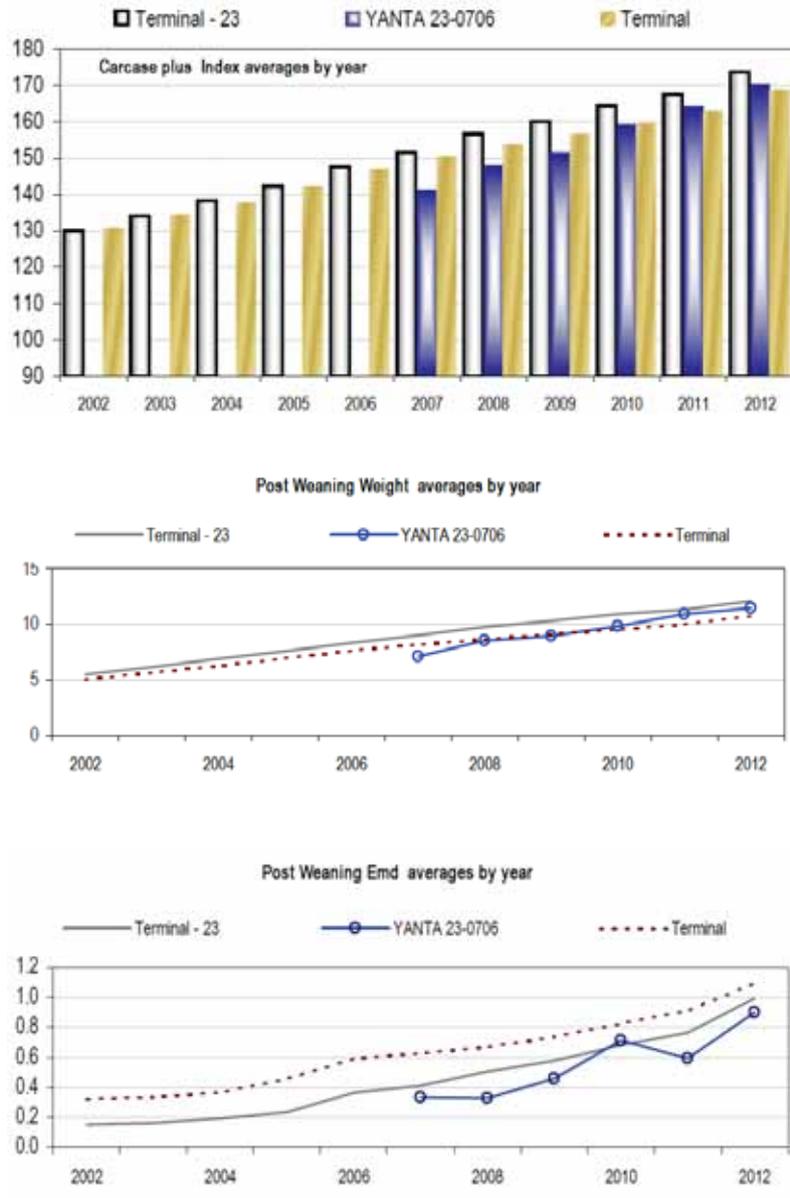
- Supreme Champion ram in Adelaide, Bendigo and Hamilton 2012.
- Magnificent structure with great PEMD **1.7 EBV**.



YANTA 110144

- Homebred, sired by **Ashmore 090069**
- Carcass+ of **198** with PWWT of **16.4kg**

All worker rams and potential ram breeders have been tested for Hypotrichosis (a rare genetic condition resulting in hairlessness)





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POLL MERINOS

Once again the super sire **Leahcim 154**, through his sons, has stamped his presence on the 2013 sale rams. They display lovely soft handling, long-stapled wool on big plain bodies. **Leahcim 312** sons are also impressive rams. As with the White Suffolks, the AI results were disappointing with few lambs. However, **Wallaloo Park "Casper"** and **Kamora Park 304** have provided some very good sale rams. It is again pleasing to see in the genetic trend graphs supplied by *Sheep Genetics* that the flock Yearling Weight (YWT), Yearling Fibre Diameter (YFD) and Yearling Clean Fleece Weight (YCFW) have all moved in the right direction (see graphs). Breech Wrinkle and PEMD scores will be displayed in the sale catalogue.



Pictured below are the graphs for Post Weaning Weight (PWWT), Yearling Fibre Diameter (YFD) and Yearling Clean Fleece Weight (YCFW), all demonstrating that we are still increasing our flock averages for PWWT and YCFW and decreasing micron (YFD). These graphs compare Yanta, represented by the blue line, with the Merino Breed shown in the grey dashed line.

SIRES USED IN 2013

This year we have purchased semen from the following rams:

Leahcim 090918 (AI) - pictured

- Worker ram at Leahcim



Ridgway 070692 (AI)

- Bought by Mark Hull and progeny tested by CRC

Wallaloo Park "Casper" (AI) pictured

- Hopefully have better AI success than last year
- Used by prominent EP Studs



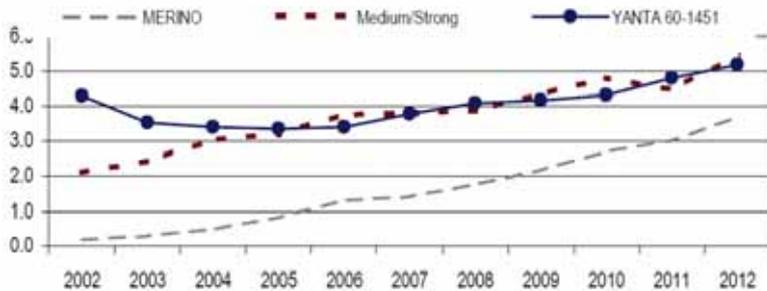
Greenfields

- Bought at 2012 Burra Fields Days
- Son of **Wallaloo Park "Maximus"**

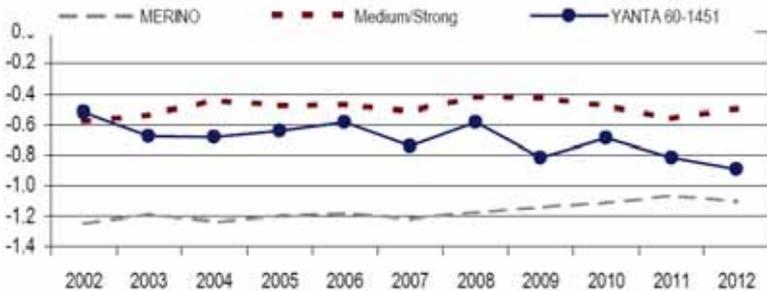
It all makes for an exciting future with:

- Increasing growth rates (YWT) in progeny - graph 1
- Decreasing 12 months micron (YFD) - graph 2
- Increasing 12 month Clean Fleece Weight (YCFW) - graph 3
- A discontinuation of the need for mulesing. (Breech wrinkle scores displayed in catalogue)
- And a continuing focus on breeding Elite Wools by visual classing.

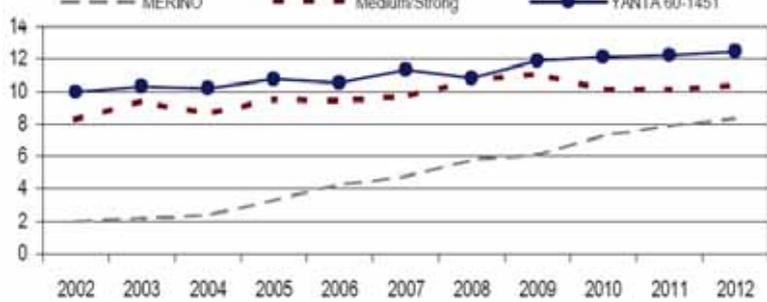
12 Month Weight EBV averages by year



12 Month Fibre Diameter EBV averages by year



12 Month Clean Fleece Weight EBV averages by year





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PREVIOUS SALE RESULTS

	Offered	Sold	Average	Top Price
2009				
White Suffolks	79	79	\$1172	\$2800
Poll Merinos	36	17	\$632	\$700
2010				
White Suffolks	99	89	\$935	\$2200
Poll Merinos	30	27	\$1141	\$2650
2011				
White Suffolks	98	75	\$1039	\$2600
Poll Merinos	40	35	\$1277	\$2400
2012				
White Suffolks	78	40	\$740	\$3000
Poll Merinos	48	30	\$860	\$1800



2012 top priced Poll Merino Ram purchased by Bill Richardson on behalf of Chris Lymn



2012 top priced White Suffolk Ram purchased by Ian Proude



2013 YANTA ANNUAL RAM SALE

FRIDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2013
2pm - Inspection from 12 noon

70 White Suffolk Rams 12-14mths old
50 Poll Merino Rams 13-14mths old

OJD Vaccinated - Brucellosis Accredited Free
Lambplan & MerinoSelect Figures

"SELECT WITH EASE USING ASBVs"

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