



Yanta Poll Merinos & White Suffolks

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Newsletter July 2014



IMPORTANT DATES

7th July - Displaying at EP Merino Expo at Wudinna

13th August - Displaying at Cleve Field Days

19th September - YANTA On-property Sale

WELCOME

The rain we need to produce crops and feed has been in abundance in May and June; let's hope we have enough in spring to finish our crops. Selecting sires with the potential to genetically breed superior offspring to make more money for producers is extremely important. 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 ASBV's for a variety of traits to assist in this area, especially those that relate to the key profit drivers such as clean fleece weight, fibre diameter and growth rates.



2013 YANTA RAM SALE

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).

As more ram breeders are using *MerinoSelect* it enables me to select semen from sires that have been progeny tested and hence have high accuracies for the desired traits. This season's lambing, we are using the Shearwell electronic ear tags in order to assist with future performance recording.





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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 more quickly, have good eye muscle measurements and are not too lean.

Last year's AI program resulted in a reasonable number of offspring from the two sires we used. We are extremely pleased with the ram lambs from **Wingamin 112462 'Trifecta'**. Not only do they look great but have excellent ASBV's. A home bred sire, Yanta **100627**, whose father is the well known **Bundara Downs 064398**, has been leaving outstanding offspring.

NEW SIRES USED 2014 (run date 15th June)

Bundara Downs 109192 (AI)

- Long well muscled ram
- Very clean and correct
- 217 progeny in 10 flocks
- PWWT **16** EMD **2.1**
- Carcase+ **210**



Ashmore 090069 (AI)

- Unique combination of low birth weight plus excellent growth and muscle
- Over 550 progeny in 15 flocks
- PWWT **15.2** EMD **1.3**
- Carcase+ **194**

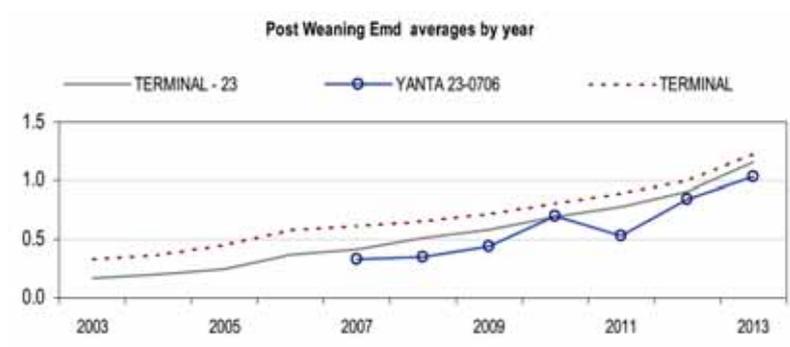
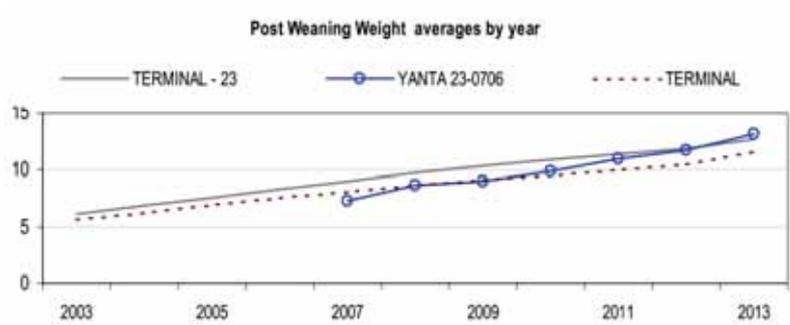
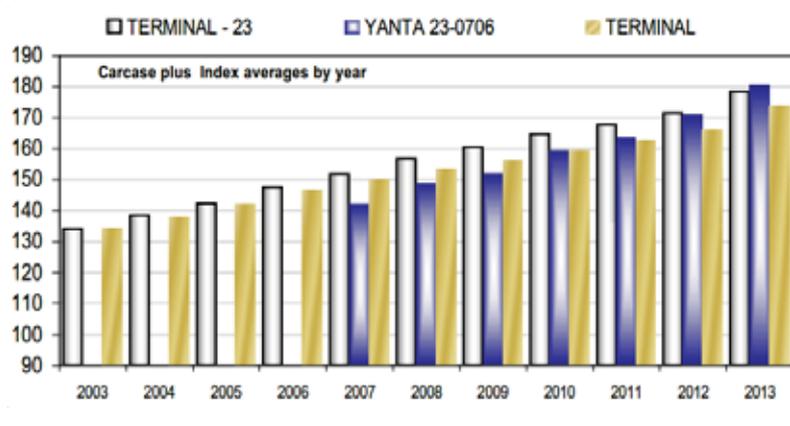
Ashmore 080185 (AI)

- Great eye muscle depth with right balance of fat.
- 211 progeny in 11 flocks
- PWWT **13** EMD **3.4**
- Carcase+ of **202**



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

Pictured below are the Carcase+, Post Weaning Weight (PWWT) and Eye Muscle Depth (EMD) graphs demonstrating that we are still increasing our flock averages for these figures. 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.



Run date 15th April 2014



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POLL MERINOS

The Leahcim genetic influence is still strong in our ram breeding flock with most of this year's best sale rams being sons or grandsons of highly regarded Leahcim sires. The rams from **Leahcim 918 (AI)** exhibit great carcase on plain bodies and I'm sure they will catch your eye. The other AI rams, **Wallaloo Park 100904 "Casper"** and **Ridgway 070692** had a disappointing number of offspring. The genetic trends show we are still well above the average for growth rate and clean fleece weight and above average Dual Purpose Index (DPI). Breech Wrinkle and PEMD scores will be displayed in the sale catalogue.

Our clean fleece weight EBV however did fall a little which is partly due to our objective of "*plaining our sheep down*". This will be rectified next year with the sires of the 2014 lambs all having high breeding values for clean fleece weight but still producing plain bodies.

SIRES USED IN 2014 (run date 7th June 2014)

Leahcim 111452 (AI) - pictured

- Worker ram at Leahcim
- 347 progeny in 3 flocks
- YWT **10.1** YCFW **22.3** YFD **-1.1**
- EBWR **-1.2** DP+ **159**



Kamora Park 070304 (AI) - pictured

- Great ASBV's
- 466 progeny in 16 flocks
- YWT **7.3** YCFW **41.6** YFD **-0.8**
- EBWR **-0.6** DP+ **190**



Turretfield 121460

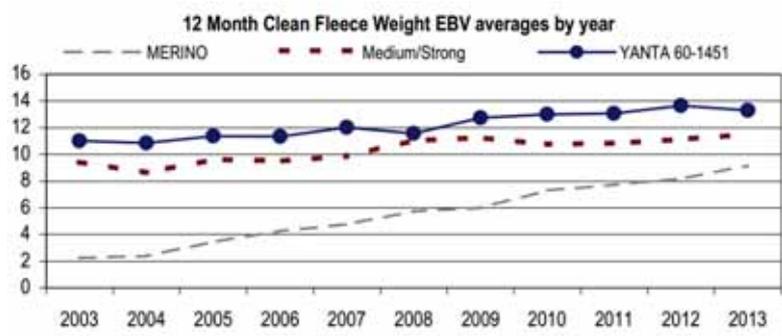
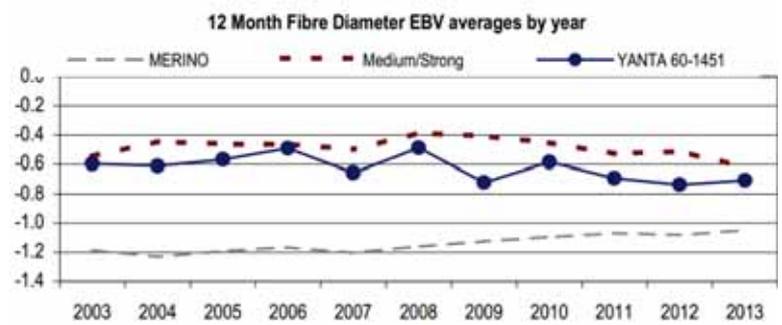
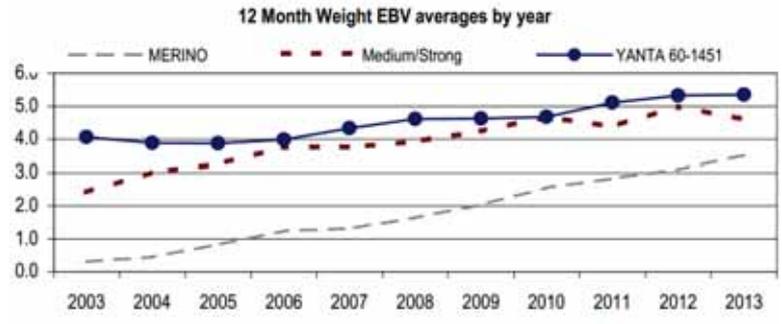
- Purchased at final Turretfield ram sale in October 2013
- YWT **12.9** YCFW **23.2** YFD **-0.5**
- EBWR **-0.8** DP+ **168**

Yanta 090469

- Bred from Leahcim 154 (AI) with appealing offspring
- YWT **7.3** YCFW **25.5** YFD **-0.5**
- EBWR **-0.6** DP+ **158**

The sires mentioned all have growth rates in the top 10% in *MerinoSelect* and in the top 5% for YCFW. We still rigorously class all sheep for structure and conformation correctness, and place a strong emphasis on nourished, white, stylish elite wool.

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. These graphs compare Yanta, represented by the blue line, with the Merino Breed shown by the grey dashed line.





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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 |
| 2013 | | | | |
| White Suffolks | 69 | 62 | \$821 | \$1600 |
| Poll Merinos | 48 | 31 | \$755 | \$1700 |



2013 top priced Poll Merino Ram purchased by Anthony & Matthew Carr



2013 top priced White Suffolk Ram purchased by Grantley & Nick Telfer



2014 YANTA ANNUAL RAM SALE

FRIDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2pm
Inspection from 12 noon

60 White Suffolk Rams 12-14mths old

50 Poll Merino Rams 13-14mths old

**OJD Vaccinated - Brucellosis Accredited Free
 Lambplan & MerinoSelect Figures**

"SELECT WITH EASE WITH ASBVs"

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