

## RAM SALES

"SHEEPVENTION" HAMILTON, VICTORIA:

PEN OF 5 "TOP 10% DP\$ INDEX": AUGUST 6-7, 2018

ON-FARM RAM SALE:

OFFERING 45 RAMS, MONDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2018

PRIVATE SALES AND INSPECTIONS WELCOME

PETER BLACKWOOD: 0418 134 800 CLAIRE BLACKWOOD: 0418 976 132

'HARLAND RISE', EVANDALE, TASMANIA

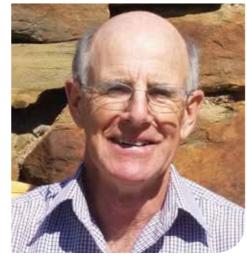




# **Federal President Report**

Graham Jenk

President Australian Corriedale Association



It is with great pleasure that I welcome all our visitors to the 16th World Corriedale Congress hosted by the Australian Corriedale Association (ACA). We feel privileged to host the Congress, and have planned a pre-tour and congress that we think you will enjoy and will give you an idea of what is happening with the Corriedale breed in Australia. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped in any way to make the tour and the congress come to fruition.

With lamb, sheep and wool prices continuing to produce good returns for producers, the Corriedale breed is having a resurgence in Australia. Prices quoted on hooks in the third week of May were: lambs \$AUD6-6.20/kg, and sheep \$AUD4-4.60/kg. Wool prices quoted by AWEX for 24th May 2018 were: 32m 438cents/kg clean, 30m 716c, 28m 995c, 26m 1431c and 24m 1979c.

"It is good to remember the Corriedale is bred as a dual purpose sheep"

It is good to remember the Corriedale is bred as a dual purpose sheep, fitting between the stronger wool meat sheep, and the finer Merino, giving the Corriedale the attributes of both meat and wool. Looking at the previously quoted wool prices, note the difference in the value of wool from 24 to 32 micron. As a woolclasser myself, I believe this has come about due to Merino breeders moving to finer wool, with the majority of Merino wool produced in Australia now being 20 micron or finer, and with the prime lamb producing sheep predominantly being 28+ micron or downs

wool. This has left a shortage of wool from 24-28 micron and this has become evident in recent years by the increasing interest from commercial sheep breeders for the finer wool type Corriedales with good carcase features.

With the many attributes the Corriedale has, we are well placed to fill this demand here in Australia with either pure Corriedales, or in cross breeding. Corriedale rams are being purchased by some breeders to put over Merino ewes to utilise the easy doing and bone and muscle characteristics of the Corriedale, with rams being sold over \$AUD6,000. Also, Corriedale rams are being used to improve both wool quality and carcase structures in Border Leicester/ Merino flocks. There have also been ram sales to Dohne and other sheep breeds.

A three year genomic trial is currently under way in Tasmania, involving Corriedale studs from around Australia, with the aim of identifying rams with specific traits.

The Corriedale is one of the first breeds to look at this on such an extensive scale and I'm sure it will promote the breed not only in Australia, but around the world.

A number of dedicated Corriedale members continue to promote the breed at field days in Victoria and New South Wales, and also spend considerable time and effort in helping young people by running education days and supporting schools and young breeders in their breeding programs.

The number of schools in Australia running their own Corriedale studs continues to grow, with two new studs registered this year. We don't underestimate the value of this, with many past students now registering their own studs, and continuing their involvement with the Corriedale breed. These young breeders have formed an affiliated group called Corriedale Youth, which produces a regular newsletter.

The ambassador program between Australia and New Zealand continues to give young people from both countries opportunities to further their knowledge of the Corriedale breed, with exchange visits.

These and other things happening in the ACA can only help to underpin the future of Corriedales in Australia.

I am sure the visitors to the World Congress will enjoy their time in Australia, and I encourage them to ask questions of us and share their experiences, so we don't miss this great opportunity to learn from each other.

We hope that you come back and enjoy our hospitality again. Friendships made in the Corriedale world last a lifetime.

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Chairman Richard Archer Ph: (03) 6392 2322 & 0438 922 321 Secretary/Treasurer Dianne MacKinnon Ph: 0408 915 355

# Tasmania Report

Richard Archer Tasmanian Chairman



Currently the Corriedale scene in Tasmania is exceptionally buoyant. This momentum has been building over the last couple of years. This increased interest has been for both Corriedale ewes and rams. Building from this is the Corriedale Performance Group who are running a Corriedale Meat Eating Quality Trial in Tasmania. This is a fantastic initiative, being the first meat eating quality trial to be conducted by a group of small breeds.

This trial will provide the Corriedale breed with the links to prime lamb meat breeds. The first year of the trial has been very successful with all the September born lambs in the trial now slaughtered averaging a carcase weight of 20.2kg. A special thank you goes out to Peter and Claire Blackwood, and Victoria Archer for all their hard work involved with this trial.

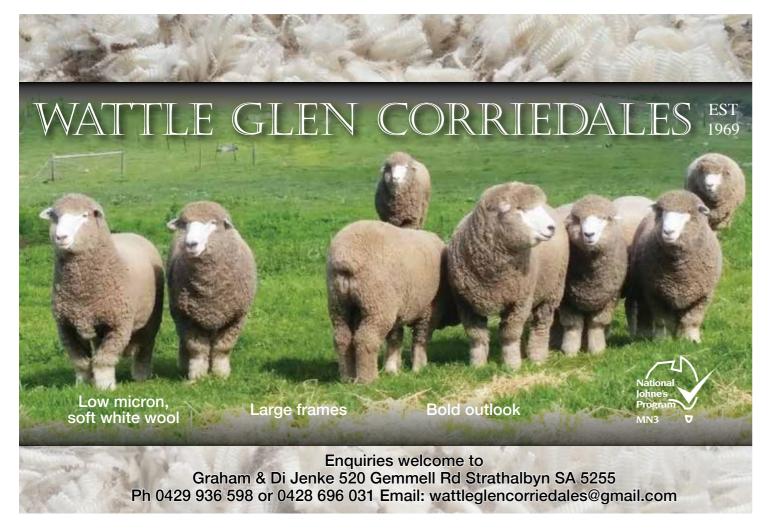
### "Ram sales in November 2017 were a great success in Tasmania"

Ram sales in November 2017 were a great success in Tasmania, with almost total clearance and 50% of rams going to the mainland. Blackwood Corriedales averaged \$1335/head and Quamby Plains Corriedales averaged \$1732/head at their on property sales. Blackwood Corriedales also had great success at Hamilton Sheepvention in Victoria, with their top ram making \$6500. Both studs are members of the Corriedale Performance Group and had many of their Gold Medal rams up for sale at their prospective annual sales this year. The interest in the Performance Corriedales is gaining momentum and is evident in sale results.

Every year in Tasmania in January there is a Corriedale ewe sale in Tunbridge. This is a very successful feature sale, being a great place for people to purchase Corriedale ewes. The results from this year include 1 year old Kuranda Corriedale ewes topped at \$255/head and Leamington Corriedale ewes topped a \$245/head. In the 5 year old ewes the Kuranda Corriedale ewes topped at \$152/head and Glen Morey Corriedale ewes topped at \$152/head and Glen Morey Corriedale ewes topped at \$150/head. Interest in this sale comes not only from Tasmania, but also from Australia's southern states.

Over the last couple of years, Tasmanian Corriedale studs have had great success at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show in Bendigo. Quamby Plains Corriedales have won a number of Supreme Champion Ram classes and Blackwood Corriedales have come close with a number of Reserve Champions in senior ram classes and have done exceptionally well in junior ram classes.

On a sadder note, since the last World Conference, Tasmania has lost two highly regarded and exceptional Corriedale Stud men, in the death of Mr Andrew Nicolson and Mr Ian MacKinnon. Both men are sadly missed by their family and the whole Corriedale community. The contribution they have given to the Corriedale breed has been enormous, both providing vast amounts of their time to the development and promotion of the breed.





# **Victorian Report**

Bronwyn Ellis retiring Victorian Chairman



Welcome, Corriedale enthusiasts, from across Australia and overseas, to the 16th World Corriedale Congress at Bendigo.

The Victorian branch of the Australian Corriedale Association is proud to host the Australian Sheep and Wool Show in Bendigo each year.

It is the premier national Corriedale show, with the largest mix of interstate competitors exhibiting some of the best the breed has to offer.

This year, we welcome international judges to the ring as part of the World Corriedale Congress.

The Victorian branch benefits from a mix of veteran breeders and energetic youth with a shared dedication to the breed.

Collectively, we strive for traits that support the Corriedale's dual-purpose nature and ability to withstand Victorian conditions, including high yielding carcases and heavy, dense and bright fleeces.

Lambing predominantly occurs between April and September. While conditions can be harsh, the Corriedale's strong mothering instinct comes to the fore to deliver solid lambing percentages for commercial producers.

### "The future of the breed in Victoria is strong"

The future of the breed in Victoria is strong. Our next generation of Corriedale breeders are showing great enthusiasm and passion from a young age.

This passion is fostered through several schools across the state, which have established Corriedale studs as part of their agricultural studies programs.

We have seen several students establish their own studs and many continuing to university to attain agriculture-related qualifications.

In 2016, 'Corriedale Youth' was formed to keep young members up to date with breed information, show results and educate them on stud breeding and showmanship.

A highlight for younger breeders is the Corriedale Youth Ambassador Competition and Junior Judging, held at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show.

The competition allows students to develop and refine their judging skills under the guidance of senior show judges and is hotly contested each year.

At a time when society is evolving at a greater rate than ever before, it is reassuring to see our next generation maintaining an interest in and passion for agriculture.

In addition to actively encouraging youth involvement, we are working to increase breed awareness through exhibits at agricultural field days.

This is gaining significant public interest and providing a great opportunity to engage with the wider agricultural community.

On behalf of Victorian branch members, we hope you enjoy your visit to our state and your time in Bendigo for the Australian Sheep and Wool Show.

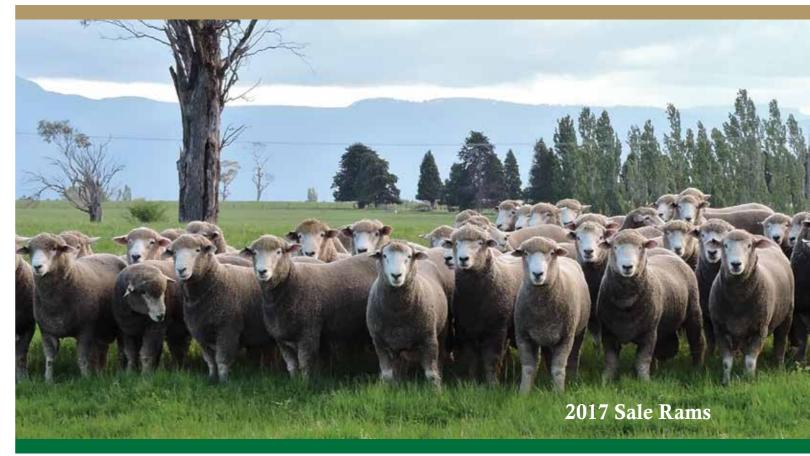




# Quamby Plains



Est. 1917



## 2018 Ram Sale - 19th November



- Low micron soft white wool
- High percentage of lambs to ewes joined

Supreme Champion at Australian Sheep and Wool Show, Bendigo 2005, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014 and 2015

# **New South Wales Report**

Tony J Manchester NSW Chairman



As Chairman of the NSW Branch of the Australian Corriedale Association I would like to welcome all visitors to Australia and we hope you enjoy your time here.

We are experiencing very dry conditions at the moment and are looking for some soaking rain. We are quite disappointed that

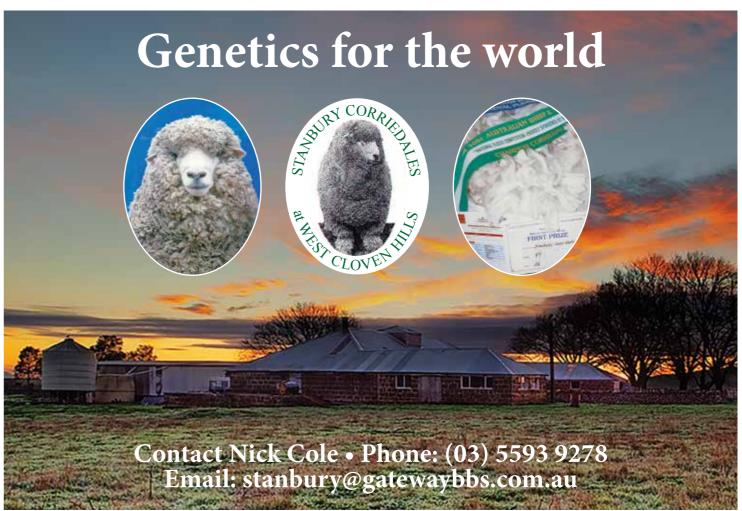
you are not coming to see our wonderful state with our beautiful harbour and lovely rural areas.

I am sure you have seen some great sheep as you have traveled around. Here in NSW we probably have slightly finer wool on our Corriedales and that is mainly because of the price. In the showing area we are working with several schools educating the children on how to care for their sheep and prepare the sheep for the show ring. They have some very good sheep and are winning against well established studs. We mainly show at Sydney, Canberra, Bathurst, Dubbo and Bendigo.

"We all believe that the Corriedale has a huge place to fill in the Australian market and also the world" We all believe that the Corriedale has a huge place to fill in the Australian market and also the world as a sheep that can provide both meat and wool. I think it is important to encourage our young people to appreciate the great attributes of this great breed. We must try to improve our sheep by breeding quality stock with wool the industry requires and meat that top restaurants want to serve. I believe that measuring for all traits can help us do that.

Once again we all hope you enjoy your stay in our wonderful country.







# South & West **Australian Report**



It seems that there is always some issue in agriculture that causes discussion, and at the moment in Australia, that issue is live sheep exports. Earlier this year, our media showed footage of a significant number of sheep which had died while on a boat destined for the Middle East. This initiated a flurry of activity, with a Federal Government Inquiry set up and calls for the trade to be

better regulated, or even shut down.

I mention this in our state report because this is a particularly relevant issue in Western Australia. The current live sheep export trade volume represents about a third of the total sheep and lamb turnoff for WA.

There is not enough processing capability in WA to cover that number of sheep, and already significant numbers of sheep are trucked over 2,500 km to SA and the Eastern states for processing. Any decision made about the future of the live sheep trade will have a profound impact in WA, and also in SA and Victoria where there are facilities for exporting sheep.

While that is mostly outside our immediate control, we are involved in several activities which aim to develop interest in Corriedales. Several South Australian studs are involved in the Lamb Meat Eating Trial, coordinated by the Performance Corriedales Group and hosted in Tasmania. We are looking forward to seeing what the results tell us, and thank those who are doing all the hard work on the trial, especially Hannah from the University of Adelaide who has an unbelievable amount of data to process

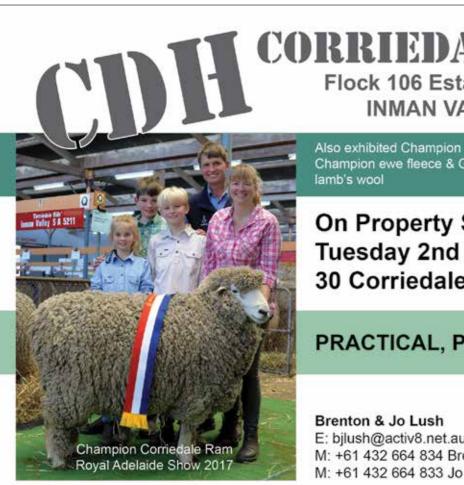
We are also heavily involved in running the SA Sheep Expo. This is an event for young people aged 12 to 23, to come together and learn about all aspects of the sheep industry, including nutrition, wool, genetics, sheep handling and even auctioneering, among many other activities. Participants from Corriedale backgrounds have performed very well over the three expos so far, and we look forward to the event growing into the future. For more details, see www.sasheepexpo.com.au

We have two major shows in SA for the Corries, at Adelaide and Mt Gambier, which are supported by four to six studs as well as occasional interstate exhibitors. Inlet Views, a school based stud, represents the Corriedales at WA shows, at Perth and Wagin. The shows are a good place for catching up and we usually fit in a meeting while we are all in one place.

### "We are getting more interest in producers using Corriedale in cross breeding"

On the production side of things, we are getting more interest in producers using Corriedale in cross breeding. The traditional southern Australia lamb enterprise is based on a Border Leicester and Merino cross ewe, with producers buying in ewes then mating them to terminal sires. But in recent years, these ewes have been getting expensive to buy (up to \$300 per head), so some have been using a Corriedale over these ewes to produce a similar type of sheep, but with a better carcase and a higher fleece value. Corriedales are also being used over 'maternal composites', which are highly productive sheep but produce wool that is over 32 micron. Good results are coming from that, as well.

Thanks to you all for coming to the Congress in Australia. We hope you enjoy yourselves and have a good look around, and we look forward to catching up in the future.



# CORRIEDALE HILLS

Flock 106 Established 1926 INMAN VALLEY SA

Also exhibited Champion ram fleece Champion ewe fleece & Grand Champion all breeds

On Property Sale Tuesday 2nd of October 30 Corriedale rams

PRACTICAL, PRODUCTIVE

Brenton & Jo Lush

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FOUNDED IN 1951

## Big, Bold, Consistent Dual Purpose Sheep with over Half a Century of Genetics

• Structurally correct • Heavy wool cutters • High lambing percentages • Self replacing therefore-No introduction of diseases • No replacement costs • Consistent wool type • Consistent lamb type

### Our History

The Gambier View stud (Flock No. 1527) was founded in 1951 by Mr JR (Reg) Savage whose property was at Mt Gambier in SA. After purchasing ewes and a ram from the late Senator Guthrie's dispersal sale, the stud kept mainly to this bloodline, buying rams from Stanbury stud (FlockNo. 1500). One exception was a ram with magnificent wool, purchased from the Redbank stud. Mr Reg Savage retired in 1972, transferring the stud to John and Jill Savage, who moved their farming enterprise to Skipton in Victoria at that time.

In 1981, Milton Savage founded his own stud Compton House (Flock No. 2278), purchasing ewes with lambs at foot from the dispersal sale of the Trevarno stud. These sheep were mainly of Stanbury bloodline. The two studs worked well together but operated separately at the same time. Jill Savage died in July 1998, and with the death of John Savage in 2008, the Gambier View stud was transferred to Milton and Tracey Savage who run the two studs virtually as one. The two studs have introduced rams from Loddon Park, Arthur Pederick's Cooralyn, semen from New Zealand studs Wilfield, Strathblane, Coldstream and Wattle Bank, and a ram from the now dispersed Wye stud. The Wye ram features Gambier View 96-118-58 in its pedigree.

Over the last two years, semen from old Gambier View and Compton House rams has been used to restore characteristics that the studs were always renowned for

The principals of Gambier View and Compton House believe that a TRUE dual purpose Corriedale is a very productive, profitable sheep. The Corriedale was originally bred as a very hardy dual purpose maternal breed, being a large, very meaty sheep which stands squarely on good black feet, and able to live in all conditions. The wool has a micron range from 25-30 microns, with excellent character and lustre for use in the spinning industry. The ewes are capable of cutting fleeces weighing in excess of 7kg. They are very maternal and mother their lambs intensely, are very fertile achieving large conception rates and good lambing percentages with high lamb survival rates

and quick growth rates. These are the attributes being sought after and achieved with the sheep from these

Gambier View and Compton House are planning to intensify efforts to increase conception rates and lambing percentages. They are also focusing on increasing growth rates of the sheep for two reasons: one. to produce as much meat as quickly as possible and two to lamb the one year old ewes down at 13 months of age. To do this the ewes need to weigh 70-80kg at lambing. This has been done in the past successfully but not consistently. Milton and Tracey feel the sheep have these attributes already, and that by improving animal husbandry, these goals will be achieved.

Charlie Savage is the 4th generation of the Savage family to be involved with the Corriedale breed. At 13 years of age, he is very motivated and enthusiastic, and is very keen to take up the challenge by continuing to breed more improved sheep at the Gambier View and Compton House Corriedale studs.



Contact: Milton Savage Tel: (03) 5340 3592, Mob: 0418 534 037

# 16th World Corriedale Congress Program

#### Tuesday 17 July 2018

For those just coming to the congress and attending the welcome reception, there is a registration desk in th Fernery One Room, Bendigo All Seasons Hotel, 171 McIvor Road, Bendigo, Victoria

#### Wednesday 18 July 2018

**8.00am** Registration at Fernery One Room, Bendigo All Seasons Hotel

**9.00am** Welcome to Congress and Welcome to Country

9.05am Jonathan Hickford Genomics; lots of potential, but don't break out the bubbly just yet!

9.50am Wayne Pitchford & Hannah Gordon Eating quality genomics in Corriedale lambs

10.30am Morning tea

11.00am John Larsen Parasite research

**11.45am** Blair McCormick
The role of forages in the
Australian Sheep meat industry

**12.30pm** Lunch

1.15pm Marius Cuming
Corriedale Wool Marketing &
Current R&D

2.00pm Kate Methven Corriedale Youth

**2.15pm** Matthew Dickinson School Studs

**2.30pm** Royce Pitchford & Emily Attard Ambassador Program

2.45pm Afternoon tea

12

**3.00pm** Presidents' Presentations x 6

**7.00pm** Pre-dinner drinks followed by the Congress Dinner

### 2018 World Corriedale Congress Presenters



Jonathan Hickford

Professor in Animal Breeding and Genetics

Jonathan's presentation will focus on his observation that it is very easy to get caught up in the hubris around new technologies like genomics, and primarily because we are all optimistic when it comes to what we think they might deliver in future. The problem is of course that we only ever have 20:20 vision in hindsight, and so often the promise of a better future doesn't quite deliver the things we imagined.

This will be true of genomics, because while it is now easy to find genes, it is still immensely challenging to work out how they are switched on and off, how they interact with each other, and how they interact with the environment. In that context Corriedale breeders do need to support genomics approaches, BUT also realise they need to also use more conventional quantitative genetic approaches for key traits and good breeding practice for qualitative traits. All that, and keep a close eye on the market, and rising consumer demand for natural products produced from sheep farmed with the highest welfare standards and transparency in the production system. No one says it will be easy!



#### Matthew Dickinson

Agriculture and Horticultural Studies, Ballarat Grammar

Matt has been teaching Agriculture and Horticultural Studies at Ballarat Grammar since 2009. He is responsible for Year 10 Aghort Elective, VCE Units 1 to 4 Aghort and VET Cert IV Agriculture. As the Farm Manager at Ballarat Grammar he looks after the 125 acre property, which lies 4kms north from the main school campus. Since the purchase of the farm eight years ago, he has

implemented a new farm plan, redesigning the fencing, paddocks and laneway system.

The School runs a Lowline Cattle stud, a Corriedale sheep stud, pigs, poultry, horses and cropping, as well as pasture improvements. Over 2000 native trees have been planted in an extensive program to improve biodiversity across the farm.

Each year the sheep and cattle are exhibited at a range of shows and events, including ASBA Bendigo, Sheepvention and Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne Royal shows at various times in the past. Ballarat Grammar has over 70 students currently studying Agriculture at the school.

One of the highlights for Matt is catching up with past students who are now working in the industry.



Marius Cuming

Corporate Communication Manager, Australian Wool Innovation

Marius Cuming is the Corporate Communication Manager at Australian Wool Innovation, parent company to The Woolmark Company. He also owns and runs a small woolgrowing and prime lamb business in western Victoria with 1800 ewes.

Coming from a background in rural journalism, he is responsible for communicating with woolgrowers about what AWI does on their behalf but has initiated a number of programs that have bridged the gap between the farmer and consumer. Marius enjoys connecting woolgrowers with designers, brands, processors and ultimately, consumers, and speaks as a passionate farmer, woolgrower, woolclasser and agricultural scientist.



Wayne Pitchford

Wayne studied Agricultural Science at University of Adelaide (1984-1987) and during his final year obtained First Class Honours for a sheep breeding project.

He worked for CSIRO Water Resources for a year and then did his PhD in Sydney (1989-92). He was appointed Lecturer in Animal Breeding and Genetics at University of Adelaide in 1992, promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1998, Associate Professor in 2007 and Professor in 2014. His main focus has been on beef cattle breeding and always in partnership with molecular geneticists. Wayne has been a program leader in two Beef Cooperative Research Centres, had projects in Sheep CRC and on the board of the Pork CRC. He currently has projects on beef cattle maternal efficiency in partnership with New Zealand, advanced carcase measurement technologies in partnership with leading abattoirs, cattle handling and beef quality, lamb survival, lamb eating quality, development of fodder beet and two large commercial beef genomic selection programs.

He leads the Corriedale Eating Quality Genomics project. He has supervised over 80 postgraduate students and published over 200 papers. The most exciting teaching program he has been

involved in since 2012 is taking students to Indonesia and more recently Cambodia where they can learn about culture, trade, tropical animal production, poverty alleviation and many other things. Since 2014 Wayne has also hosted a reciprocal tour group of students from Indonesia who join Australian students in the Inter-Collegiate Meat Judging competition.



Blair McCormick
Technical Services Manager,
PGG Wrightson Seeds

Blair McCormick is the Technical Services Manager of the PGG Wrightson Seeds Australia parent company, representing all brands within the Australian market place. Blair and his team evaluate new products for the best fit for cropping and livestock farming systems, then determine where to position the new products to maximise value to the farmer. Blair started with the wider business in 2007 and has held a variety of roles and spent time on livestock farms across all of Australia and New Zealand. Blair grew up in Bendigo, North Central Victoria and has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from the University of Melbourne.

Blair's presentation will explain the role forages play in the sheep meat industry along with what is currently used in the Australian marketplace. With many farming systems, there are a wide range of options including alternative forages to maximise meat production. The Corriedale breed brings versatility to the farming system and Blair will discuss a wide range of forage options and management associated to maximise production and productivity to a sheep meat farming enterprise.



Hannah Gordon University of Adelaide

Hannah grew up on her family's mixed sheep and cropping farm at Coonalpyn, SA. After leaving the farm to attend boarding school in Adelaide she decided that she wanted to pursue a career in agriculture, particularly in sheep production. At the University of Adelaide Hannah participated in extra-curricular events such as the National Merino Challenge, the Intercollegiate Meat Judging Competition, and a livestock production systems study tour of Indonesia. She completed a Bachelor of Agricultural Sciences in 2017 (2015-2017), and this year has commenced an Honours project titled "Genomic analysis of eating quality in Corriedale lambs" under the supervision of Professor Wayne Pitchford. Hannah has very much enjoyed working with the Performance Corriedale Group during her Honours, and is eager to share the findings of her project upon its completion.



John Larsen

Director and a senior researcher with the Mackinnon Project

Associate Professor John Larsen is currently the Director and a senior researcher with the Mackinnon Project, a research and consultancy group within the University of Melbourne Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences at Werribee (Victoria, Australia).

The Mackinnon Group, founded by Professor

Fred Morley in 1982, is well known within

Australia and internationally for its 'whole-farm'

or 'systems' approach to research and consultancy services provided to the sheep, goat and beef industries in south-eastern Australia. The group also delivers post-graduate training for veterinarians through a residency program, jointly sponsored by the Mackinnon Trust and Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA).

John graduated in Veterinary Science from the University of Melbourne in 1978 and worked with the Victorian Department of Agriculture, first as a veterinary pathologist in 1979, then a field veterinarian until 1997. He completed his PhD project on parasite immunology with the University of Melbourne in 1997. This studied the problem of scouring and dags in adult Merino sheep - not an ideal after dinner topic for nonsheep people, but one that is close to the hearts of most if not all sheep producers in high rainfall areas! This followed an interest in internal and external parasites of sheep which has continued since joining the Mackinnon Group in 1998.

John has developed a detailed knowledge of the grazing industries, and has worked closely with sheep producers on a range of research and extension projects over the past 30 years. His research has been supported by many sponsors, including MLA, Australian Wool Innovation (AWI), the Victorian and Federal Governments, veterinary pharmaceutical companies, private trusts and farmer groups. During this time, he has published over 30 articles in refereed scientific journals and presented or co-authored over 70 papers at veterinary and farmer conferences.

His current projects include assessing the production effects of lungworms on heavily infected sheep farms and collecting data to validate a computer model and decision support tool on gut roundworm infections.

#### **Acknowledgments**

Platinum Australian Wool Innovation

Roberts Limited Shearwell Australia Pty Ltd

Bronze United Wool Co. Pty Ltd
Donors Tasmanian Corriedale Committee

Techwool Trading Pty Ltd
Australian Wool Network Pty Ltd

Leahy Art & Design Michell Direct Wool Ralston Trust Lush Family Jenke Family

South Australian Corriedale Committee

Dr Georgina Pengilley Jenkin Family Te Mania Angus

Cole Family
Savage Family
Jim & Brenda Venters

Di MacKinnon Victorian Corriedale Committee

Watkins Family
All Seasons Hotel
The McLaren Vale Distillery

# A Closer Look at History

#### Flock 1 - Bulgandra

By Richard Carter NSW

Mr HJ Corbett in 1911, sold his entire Corriedale flock to A J Sloane, Woodbank, Jerilderie, after having evolved a Corriedale unique to Australia. He had used stud Larra Merino rams with their beautiful wool type over stud Lincoln ewes of enormous size. J F Guthrie had decided to buy Corriedales and was going to New Zealand to purchase them when Corbett advised him to buy all the Corbett stud ewes (marked with a punch hole in their ears) out of the large flock he had sold to AJ Sloane.

In 1912 these ewes were moved to Bulgandra Station on the Billabong Creek in New South Wales. A creek whose waters have quenched the thirst of some of the best cattle studs in the east and Merino studs in the west.

In 1914 J F Guthrie called a meeting of interested breeders to form an Australian Corriedale Association and Flock 1 was created under the name of Bulgandra.

This stud played a huge role in the breed's amazing growth, both in Australia and overseas where many studs carry it's bloodlines. In that 106 years many people played key roles.

Oliver Guthrie, of Rich Avon, started with his father's flock 126, at Rich Avon. Upon the death of Senator JF Guthrie and the dispersal of the flock in 1951, Oliver bought a large number of the sheep and its records. The rest of the sheep went to create a wonderful base within many of the famous new studs. The work of spreading the genes continued as the breeds numbers peaked in the 1960s when it became the 2nd largest sheep breed in the world.

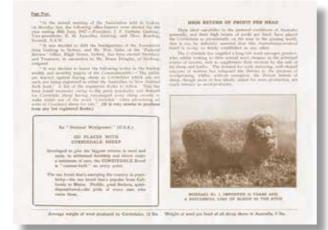
Flock 1 was later transferred to amalgamate with Flock 126, at Rich Avon. The Guthrie name is synonymous with Corriedale and Flock 1, both within the Association, within the show ring on a gigantic scale and most of all for growing the vision that Henry Corbett had expressed for the breed – a true dual purpose sheep carrying the best features of the Merino and the Lincoln and always respecting the role the dam plays in the evolution of the breed.

Flock 1 now resides in a beautiful valley in the foothills of the Grampians, surrounded by a large flock of commercial Corriedales owned by Tom, son of Oliver Guthrie, vintner of some superb wines growing on the slopes of the Grampians. Flock 1 now is under the name of James Cusack, son of Georgina.

A new home, in a new country with new challenges and wonderful opportunities Flock 1 is in the hands of the 4th generation to continue to supply the genetics to build for the future.



Extracts from the official history of the Australian Corriedale Association





Extracts from the official

history of the Australian

Corriedale ewes & lambs during evolution period at Rich Avon, Donald, Victoria (1890)



Corriedale rams 2 years being shipped to Palermo Argentina for show & Sale (1950)



Cosmo Gibson Esq & Oliver Guthrie, shown with Guthrie Corriedales Ram 2 years at Palermo International Show 1950



Oliver Guthrie with Grand Champion Ram

## 4th World Corriedale Conference in Australia-1965



Delegates to the Fourth Corriedale World Conference Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne, July 26 & 27, 1965



Sr Carlos Braun Melendez of Argentina; Sr Salvador Garcia Pintos of Uruguay; and Sr. Jorge Camps Menendez of Chile, examine a prize Corriedale held by Jeff Prell at the Australian Sheep breeders' Show in Melbourne, Australia.



Mr Ralph Hardingham of Himeville, Natal, South Africa; Sr. Andres Romero of La Calera Puno, Peru; Sr. Jorge Camps Menendez of Chile; and Sr Carlos Braun Melendez of Argentina examine a prize Corriedale held by Jeff Prell at the Australian Sheepbreeders' Show in Melbourne, Australia.



Sr Carlos Braun Menendez of Argentina with the prize winning Corriedale ram and its breeder, Mrs R Wettenhall of Geelong, Victoria, at the Australia Sheepbreeders' Show in



Sr Carlos Braun Menendez of Argentina and Sr Salvador Garcia Pintos of Uruguay; examine a prize Corriedale held by Darcy Wettenhall at the Australian Sheep breeders' Show in Melbourne, Australia.

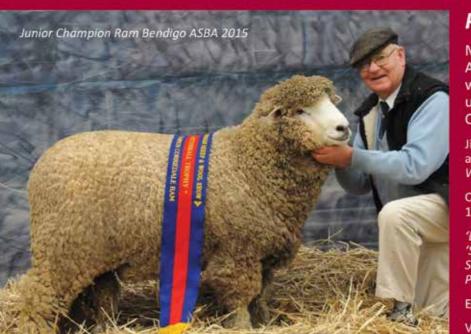


Overseas delegates to the conference admire one of the winning fleeces. The fleece contest drew entries from many overseas countries.

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# **Keeping Young People** in the Sheep Industry the SA Sheep Expo

#### **Brenton Lush**

President of the SA Sheep Expo Committee



In 2015, a group of sheep farmers, stud breeders, teachers and industry advocates got together in Adelaide to discuss a perplexing matter: the future of the sheep industry in SA. All the indications were that the sheep industry had a very bright future with stable production, growing demand for products and new technologies becoming available, but there was one question mark over this future - where were the people going to come from to operate this industry into the future?

And so the SA Sheep Expo was conceived. The sheep industry lost a lot of people in the 1990's after the wool reserve price scheme collapsed. Farmers pulled up their fences and went cropping or moved into cattle. But now we had a good bunch of young people who were interested in sheep, but we needed to encourage them and teach them about sheep and introduce them to the career

The first Expo was held in 2016, with about 60 young people, between the ages of 12 and 23, attending. In the three Expos to date, sessions covered have ranged from butchery to wool processing, shearing to auctioneering and nutrition to low stress stock handling. Participants are each allocated a sheep, for which they are responsible for the duration of the Expo, and they must feed it, get it settled and the sheep becomes their 'show' sheep in the handling classes. But there is a strong commercial focus, so participants not only get to learn about the sheep as an individual animal, but as a mob and as a part of a commercial enterprise.

Industry has got behind the Expo and supported it with sponsorship and personnel. Some companies have started sending their trainees to the Expo as part of their training, and school students can get credits towards their course work. Adelaide University and TAFE are also involved, and training and career options are presented.

But the best thing about sheep Expo is that the people who will be running the industry in 20 or 30 years time are already building networks, not only with themselves but with today's industry leaders and employers. So with 90 attending the latest Expo in 2018, the Expo is meeting its aim of developing people for the future of the industry.

And what has this to do with the Corriedales? There is a competitive component to the Expo, based on a guiz, some activities and an interview, and the winner of the senior section gets to go to New Zealand and look at the sheep industry, amongst other things. For the first two Expos, the winners were young Corriedale breeders, who had obviously learnt a lot from the school studs they had been involved in. Emily Attard and Tess Runting have since been to New Zealand and reported back to the next Expo. Another Corriedale breeder, Kate Methven, won a work experience scholarship for two weeks at a property on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula. We wish them all the best for their future in the sheep industry. For more information and updates, check www.sasheepexpo.com.au

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# **Performance Corriedales Australia**

Victoria Archer
Chairman Performance Corriedale Group



The Corriedale Performance Group is a group of like minded Corriedale breeders working together to improve the profitability of the Corriedale sheep breed through measurements

The goals of the Corriedale Performance Group are to produce a highly profitable Corriedale by increasing growth and number of lambs weaned (fertility), as well as improving carcase quality and producing low to mid-micron (23 - 28 Micron) soft, white wool. All members of the group are members of LAMBPLAN. This has been the key driver of increased rates in genetic gain, as it allows breeders to make more informed breeding decisions. Each breeder records information on each individual animal and the LAMBPLAN analysis utilises this information to produce Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs). ASBVs make the best use of information available (performance of all relatives) to estimate the true genetic merit of individual animals.

This increased accuracy of selection, coupled with a clear breeding objective, has resulted in an ongoing and increased genetic gain for group members.

As a group we meet twice a year, where we have a great social time, along with business-driven meetings where we assess our goals and aims, and set our targets and obligations. We work well together as a team and although a relatively small group, have had great success in reaching and exceeding our targets.

The Corriedale Meat Eating Quality Trial has been driven by the Performance

Corriedale Group and managed by Claire and Peter Blackwood, and Victoria Archer based in Tasmania. We have worked very well as a team and for the last two years the Corriedale Annual General Meeting has been held in Tasmania so members can assist with, and see progress of the trial. The trial is funded by breeders, University of Adelaide Davies Research Centre and MLA. It is a very exciting project and as a group we are very proud of the trial and look forward to the outcomes and results.

The Corriedale Performance Group has created a ranking system based on the Dual Purpose \$ Index. Rams can be ranked with a GOLD Medal, SILVER Medal or BRONZE Medal. For a ram to receive a GOLD Medal his Dual Purpose \$ Index needs to be ranked in the top 10%. A Ram with a SILVER Medal has his Dual Purpose \$ Index ranked between 75% and 90%. For a Ram to receive a BRONZE Medal his Dual Purpose \$ Index needs to range between 40% and 75%. As the sheep improve every year the requirements for obtaining Gold are constantly increasing.

The Corriedale Performance Group evaluates its genetics each year with a young sires program. Elite young sires are identified amongst our group for use in member's flocks. This allows for progeny testing and allows linkages between flocks.

The outlook is bright for the Performance Corriedale as the mid-micron wool (23-28 micron) is selling extremely well and well above the broader cross-bred wool. 26 micron fleece is selling for 1389 cents clean/kg v's 32 micron fleece selling for 444 cents clean/kg as at 17/05/18. We have improved the early growth in the breed and with lambing percentages having also increased this has enabled Corriedales to become a real option for use in prime lamb flocks. Performance Corriedales are being used in wool and meat flocks for the recognized traits we offer and the hybrid vigour added by being purebred.

The Corriedale Performance Group had great success with the 2017 ram selling season, with high clearances and strong prices achieved. This shows that there is great interest in what we are doing, what we are achieving and where we are heading as a breed, and this is evident through the growing demand for Corriedale Performance Genetics.

As we continue to strive to meet the goals we set out to achieve, the group has a fantastic future in front of them. The group welcomes any new members, so please don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you are interested, we would warmly welcome you.



Trial lambs at weaning



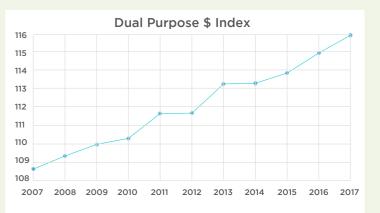
Trial lambs heading to abattoir

Artificial Insemination Team

# **Performance Statistics**



Price differential of 26 micron wool per/kg v's 32 micron wool per/kg, 2013- 2018. Source: AWEX indicators May each year



The Performance Corriedale Group has been making genetic gain over time with profitability increasing for clients.

DP\$ Value Indexes: A dollar index indicates the value of an animal based on its suitability for a particular market. The value is given in real dollar figures and expressed as \$/ewe joined/ yr. For example a dollar index of 105 indicates that a ram will produce \$5 extra value for every ewe joined compared to a ram with an \$ index of 100. Therefore, over four years, if a ram produces 200 progeny, the extra value produced by that ram will be \$5 x 200 = \$1,000.



#### Members:

Quamby Plains TAS - Victoria Archer
 Blackwood TAS - Peter Blackwood
 Nayook South SA - Legh & Wally Jenkins
 Corriedale Hills SA - Brenton Lush
 Lushford SA - Royce Pitchford
 Roseville NSW - John & Tony Manchester
 Sweetfield VIC - Bron Ellis



# **Corriedale Youth**

Written by Kate Methven



The young people of the Corriedale breed are forever growing in number, and consistently improving their skills. With great optimism, we can look at these young people who are enthusiastic and proud to be part of the Corriedale breed, and know the future is in good hands.

Over 100 young people are involved in the breed. Many of them have participated in their school programs, which have shown success in the past, and continue to highlight achievements. The quality of the young people coming through the school secondary system has led many to continue

studying various aspects of agriculture in further education eg university.

Students are encouraged and supported through multiple pathways. The Australian Corriedale Association (ACA) is a significant supporter, ensuring there are appropriate classes for student and novice breeders to exhibit their sheep, giving them the best opportunity to learn as much as possible when showing their sheep.

Being a young person myself, owning Corriedales, studying at University and working in the sheep industry, I find the support given by members of the ACA to be invaluable. Words of advice and encouragement go a long way to guide young Corriedale breeders in the right direction. If we ever need help, we know there is someone to ask.

### "Corriedale Youth is a group created by the young people for the young people"

Corriedale Youth is a group created by the young people for the young people of the breed, providing essential information and advising of any new opportunities that may be available. Three newsletters are published

each year, including show results, reports on sheep related events that some young people may have attended, and extra information relevant to their school or stud.

The aim of Corriedale Youth is to encourage students to stay involved with the breed, to get the most out of their experiences going to shows, and taking every opportunity that comes to work with their sheep.

The Australian Sheep Breeders Association show provides the perfect opportunity for students to learn about the sheep and wool industry, and Corriedale Youth helps with this by running the Showmanship Award each year. Students are judged on their handling skills for the duration of showing, and on their interaction with show officials and other breeders while at the show. This award is based on young people wanting to learn, and putting themselves out there to talk to new people. These are skills they will use in both the sheep industry and day to day life. I look forward to seeing where each young Corriedale person goes, both within the breed, and outside of the sheep industry. Corriedales are a great help to students who want to enter the agriculture industry, providing a great chance to develop life skills along the way. There have been many great friendships formed through our involvement with sheep, and each one of us loves working with the sheep and doing our best for the Corriedale breed.

# 2018 – A YEAR TO VOTE

#### **Brenton Lush**

Member of the Wool Poll Panel

# WoolPoll 2018. It's your choice, vote!

17 SEPT - 2 NOV 2018 | WOOLPOLL COM AU

The next time you get a phone call or an email from your wool broker telling you your wool prices, you will have one of three reactions; you will be either happy, accepting, or disappointed.

At the moment, if you are producing wool finer than 27 micron, you are in the first category, and contemplating buying a new ute. If you are producing 27 to 30 micron wool, you are probably still reasonably happy but aren't about to go and put an offer on the neighbouring block. But if your wool clip is over 30 micron, you are probably wondering why you are getting the same prices as you were 10 years ago.

What we get paid for our wool comes down to a simple equation of supply and demand, and the current market reflects this. Supply in Australia has been relatively constant over the last ten years, and we produce about 90% of the world's fine apparel wool, which makes up just over 80% of our woolclip.

In that ten year period demand for apparel wool has risen, and so has the price, especially in recent times. On the side of the broader wools, especially over 30 micron, there is significant production in Europe and New Zealand. Wool of this description is often used in interiors, and the market for that has not balanced supply.

Australia is one of few countries where woolgrowers contribute to the management of their industry, by investing in research and development (R&D) and marketing. Currently, Australian woolgrowers contribute 2% of their wool income to a fund used to promote our fibre in the worlds markets, to research alternative uses and processing methods for wool, and to finance R&D from the dirt to the dockyard.

This fund is administered by a company, owned by Australian shareholder woolgrowers, called Australian Wool Innovation, or AWI. The Woolmark Company was purchased by AWI in 2007 to help establish a marketing framework - prior to that AWI solely invested in R&D.

In the last full financial year (2016/17), the wool levy paid by growers amounted to \$60.2m. In addition to this, the Australian Government put in \$AUD14.7 million, licensees of the Woolmark Company contribute \$AUD9.4 million and there is nearly \$AUD4 million of interest and other income. AWI splits this income, with 60%

allocated to marketing and 40% to R&D, with a projected expenditure of \$AUD88 million in 2017/18.

In 2018, woolgrowers have an opportunity

to vote in what is known as WoolPoll. Under Australian legislation, every three years woolgrowers get to choose which levy rate they would like to pay towards their R&D and Marketing. Currently at 2%, eligible woolgrowers get to choose from up to five options for their new levy rate, with voting opening in September 2018. An eligible woolgrower is one who has paid over \$AUD100 in levies in total over the last three years, which equates to a minimum three-year wool income of \$AUD5000. In September, eligible woolgrowers will receive their WoolPoll 2018 Voter Information Kit, and they will have until 2 November to vote, either online or by fax or post. When you receive this kit, discuss it with other members of your family or business,

Please don't miss this opportunity to have a say in your industry.

#### Further information:

and make your vote count.

On WoolPoll 2018: www.woolpoll.com.au
On AWI: www.wool.com

On Woolmark: www.woolmark.com For a chat: Brenton Lush - 0432 664 834



# Corriedale eating quality genomics

#### **Professor Wayne Pitchford**

Davies Research Centre. University of Adelaide

Corriedale breeders are generally quick to espouse the superior eating quality of Corriedale relative to lamb from other breeds. Eating quality is a function of tenderness, juiciness and flavour. The two laboratory measures that explain the majority of variation in eating quality are the force required to sever muscle fibres (shear force) and the proportion of intramuscular fat (IMF%). In the past, given animals must be slaughtered to have these measures taken, the only way to evaluate the genetic merit of sires has been to test their progeny.

Genomics is a tool used to evaluate the genetic merit of animals based on the forms of genes (DNA) they have inherited from their parents. Sheep have about 30,000 genes and the DNA is tested at thousands of locations to be confident of the traits that are influenced by these genes. If animals have had relatives tested for performance in traits and their DNA characterised, then their genetic merit can be estimated with a DNA test. Thus, genomics offers the opportunity to estimate breeding values for eating quality on live sheep at an early age.



Lambs at Weaning, Cressy, Tasmania.

The Performance Corriedale Group have initiated a project to test rams and develop genomic tests for eating quality of Corriedale lamb. The trial is being run by Peter and Claire Blackwood, Blackwood Corriedales in Tasmania who have had significant assistance from Victoria Archer, Quamby Plains. We also have an Honours student, Hannah Gordon from Coonalpyn SA. As project leader, it is a privilege to work with Corriedale breeders whom I have got to know through my wife Judith, originally from the well-known Corriedale Hills stud. Our son Royce started Lushford Corriedale stud with performance tested sheep from Coora in 2012.

The numerous breeds in Australia include Merino, Poll Dorset, White Suffolk, Border Leicester and maternal composites. These have had many progeny genotyped through industry breeding programs. However, the Corriedale is the first of the next tier of breeds to have such a project and this provides a model for other groups. The project leverages breeder cash

contribution with an additional \$5.89

contributed for every Corriedale breeder dollar. This project is funded by breeders, the University of Adelaide and the Meat & Livestock Australia Donor Company (MDC). Corriedale carcases, Stawell, Victoria.



We aim to measure 900 purebred progeny from 45 sires during 2018-20. Over 30 traits have been recorded with lambs tagged at birth, weighed regularly, have wool and structural scores taken by the Performance Group and carcase traits measured including weight, muscle and fat depth, pH decline, meat colour, IMF% and shear force. All lambs and sires will be genotyped. The data are analysed with adjustments for year of birth, sex and type of birth and rearing. The data will be included in Sheep Genetics analyses and provides a great opportunity for breeders to start performance recording if not already doing so.



Hannah Gordon testing tenderness of lamb at the University of Adelaide. The lamb was aged for 5 days and cooked under standard protocol.

April is a busy month with 300 ewes inseminated and 212 lambs slaughtered at Frewstal, Stawell Victoria. A summary of the raw data is presented. As expected, there was large variation in most traits due to differences between ewes and wethers, singles, twins and triplets. The average carcase weight was just under 20kg with an average fat score of 2.3 (1=very lean, 5=obese). Fat depth had the greatest variation and fibre diameter the least.

Trait	Mean	Min.	Max.	CV%
Greasy fleece wt (kg)	1.6	0.6	2.7	21
Fibre diameter (um)	22.5	18.2	27.3	7
Carcase wt (kg)	19.6	11.3	26.7	15
Loin fat depth (mm)	4.1	1.1	9.9	39
Loin muscle dth (mm)	28.4	21.5	38.4	11
Shear force (N)	34.1	19.8	73.4	27

The data was analysed and the graph below shows variation between sire progeny groups for tenderness (shear force = toughness, reported in Newtons) and carcase weight. Differences between sires represent only ¼ of the genetic variation between sheep. Early in the project we have small numbers of sires and lambs and so the differences between sires are only small. When we have the DNA genotype information we will observe more genetic variation. The spread of sires in the graphs demonstrate that sire progeny groups with lighter carcase weight tended to have tougher meat.

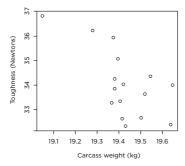


Figure 1: Relationship between toughness and carcase weight for sire progeny groups

The following graph shows the relationship between fat depth and toughness. Fat cover is important to insulate the meat and prevent it from cooling too fast in the chiller, causing toughening of the meat. It is likely that the sires with the toughest meat had lambs with the least amount of fat and these were more susceptible to toughening, an effect known as "cold shortening".

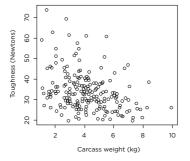


Figure 2: Relationship between toughness and fat depth for individual lambs

The results will become more interesting when we get the IMF% values, the genomic tests and as each year group comes in. If you haven't been involved so far, you have just one final opportunity with joining in April 2019



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