

JUNE 2004

POOGINOOK[®] NEWS

Also available on www.pooginook.com.au

Edition No. 33

Elite Wool from Unique Genetics

POOGINOOK DIARY:

270 Rams for Auction

Pooginook NSW Ram Sale

Wednesday September 28 2004
At Pooginook 12.30pm
140 Rams

WA Ram Sale

Thursday October 7 2004
Corrigin Showground 12.30pm
130 Rams

IN THIS EDITION:

- Client Profile
- My Vest offer
- Feeding for performance Merinos
- Boxer sire evaluation results



Pooginook Merino
Jerilderie New South Wales 2716

David & Gillian Taylor
02 6954 6145
Albury 02 6023 4011

Pat Brown Sales Manager
02 69 544 676 Fax 02 6954 4672
Mob 0427 546 151

Neville Kelly P/GK Queensland
contact & Sheep classing consultant
07 4625 5643

P/GK WA Breeding Enterprise
John Venemore ph 08 9064 1154
Rodney & Allison Petchell
Mob 0427 192 845

Pooginook Office
Ph 02 6954 6145
Albury 02 6023 4011
Fax 02 6954 6168
Albury 02 6023 4022
Mobile 0409 546145 car 0428 696724
Email pooginook@bigpond.com
Website www.pooginook.com

Young, Ambitious Merino Breeder



Looking over the Mattiske's ram purchases after the 2003 ram sale are David and Gillian Taylor with Rick, Alan & Marie Mattiske from Stockinbingal, NSW and Nev Kelly sheep classer and Jill Baldwin.

Jill Baldwin is young, ambitious and determined to maximize the productivity of the merino enterprise in the families' mixed farming & grazing business. Jill is the daughter of Alan and Marie Mattiske from Stockinbingal NSW and has invigorated the family's interest in Merinos in the past 6 years.

The family has been purchasing Pooginook rams privately and occasionally at the auction since 1972. But 2003 saw Jill and Alan take a determined approach to select some top rams out of the annual production sale. They took home 10 rams for an average of \$2730. Eight rams were sons of Pooginook Jewell.

Jill has set long term goals and objectives for the mixed sheep enterprise. She said "I believe the majority of future profit will be derived from surplus sheep sales and the quality of this product." The Mattiske's intend to increase Merino joining from 2800 to 3000 by 2006 and improve weaning rates from 99% to 110 to 115%. At the same time focus on improving wool quality, fleece weight and maintain frame together with a pasture improvement programme to run more dse per hectare.

"We have to make our sheep more productive at the same time we have to look after them better to achieve our goals Jill said. The family is running a cropping, Merino and prime lamb enterprise. Last year the Merino enterprise performed very well as surplus sheep prices were high. With improved pastures and weaning percentages Jill envisages the Merino enterprise can be just as competitive as the cropping.

The breeding ewes last year cut 7.5 kg of wool with a current flock average of 21.5 micron.

The tools the Mattiske's are us to achieve their aims include

1. Selecting higher-grade rams from Pooginook. Jill said the only way to move forward is buying better rams with well-nourished wool with productive skins and good frames. We are actually selecting type rather than sire but P/GK Jewell had the type we liked. We work closely with Nev Kelly and David Taylor for advice.
2. Improving pasture and feeding ewes to weight targets
3. All ram and ewe hoggets are visually classed with the aid of results from individual wool tests, fleece weights and body weights.
4. Sheep Classer Nev Kelly classes 2 times a year. A hogget classing in August and all the ewes in February
5. Corrective mating is used to improve progeny
6. Scanning ewes for twins and singles previously scanned for wet and dry only
7. The Mattiske's are members of Pooginook Wool initiative and attend education days

Updates and sale Catalogues On Line

Breeding, marketing, Pooginook Wool Initiative www.pooginook.com

Progressive wool marketing www.naturalinstinctwool.com

Environment and production www.learningfromfarmers.com.au

Ram Buyers Profile

Richard and Jenny Thackeray.

The family has bought P/GK rams for 50 years.

1954 was the first time Bob Thackeray purchased ram from P/GK at the Parkes ram sale. Fifty years on Richard and Jenny Thackeray continue their long association with the Taylors. At Woonack they produce medium wool merinos in a predominately fine wool area on their 5000-acre property NW of Young on the western edge of the SW slopes.

The mixed farming business includes Merino breeding, cropping, opportunity finishing cattle and CFA ewes joined to Border Leicester rams for the first cross-market. "We will maintain our Merino ewe numbers" Richard said, "our P/GK blood sheep are big heavy wool cutters and they have looked after us."

At last years shearing, wethers 2 to 4 year old cut 8.5kg of 21-micron wool. In March 2004 the wethers cut over 9 kg. "They cut a huge amount of wool compared to the rain we had in the wool-growing season," Richard said. The rising 2 year old ewes cut 10 kg of 21.3 micron wool with a yield of 69.7%, staple length 113mm, staple strength 42.

The production of the Woonack sheep was highlighted at the recent Harden wether trial were 20 Merino breeders in the district compared their sheep in the 2-year trial. Richard selected the free growing softer wool sheep and it paid off. The team were the last to be shorn and the heavy fleeces amazed the participants. (Results below)

The Woonack lambing percentage for 2003 were 92% for ewes joined. The scanning results for this year also look very good. Due to lamb in May the 2 to 6 year old scanned 92% in lamb.



Richard Thackeray, Woonack Pastoral Co, Young, NSW

Richard said, "I really want wool to have a place and I want to produce good wool."

Nos of Ewes	2500
Wether Flock	1500
No of rams purchased each year	8 -10
Average price of rams	\$800
Purchase rams	Privately
Sheep Classifier	Ian Marwedel classes maidens annually
Recent achievement	First place in the first year of 2 in the Harden Wether trial against 20 teams

	GFW kg	Micron	Yield %	CFW kg	Clean price	Wool value
Woonack	7.9	20.3	67.9	5.2	1072 c	\$54.36
2 nd Place	7.3	19.5	68.5	4.9	1090 c	\$51.51
Average	6.2	18.6	65.9	4	1193 c	\$45.07

Quotable Quote: "P/GK rams produce good big Merino's with a lot of wool. In the last 12 months our sheep cut a huge amount of wool for the rainfall."

Jo does it again.

After winning the Sandy Robertson award as the Riverina Merino young ambassador in 2002, Pooginook Stock manager Jo Kuch thought she would try her hand at judging sheep at the Riverina Stud Merino field days.

This year Jo won the Landmark Pennefather Perpetual Trophy for the Junior Judge of the Year.

Jo took home the trophy, a bronze Merino ram and a winner's cheque and a tour to New Zealand's Merino Industry for three weeks as part of her prize.

Jo grew up on a beef and sheep property in Gippsland Victoria and came to P/GK after graduating from Dookie Agriculture College with a Degree in Agriculture Science. She is in her third year at Pooginook.

Jo spent a very productive week at Marcus Oldham Agriculture College in 2003 as part of winning the 2002 Sandy Robertson award. During November 2003 she went on a 3 week tour of New Zealand visiting properties and the Christchurch show.

Jo Kuch Pooginook Stock Manager after winning the Riverina Merino Junior Judge for 2003



Merinos Options

David Taylor Comments

The Merino breed has never had so much pressure on it to perform and compete with other enterprises on farm as it is in the current economic environment.

As a third generation breeder of Merino's I have looked at the options and for our country and our commitment we are full steam ahead Merino breeding. There is no doubt there are some good reasons to look at other breeds but when I analyse our unreliable rainfall in the Riverina and the returns we get from Merinos both stud and commercial the decision is obvious.

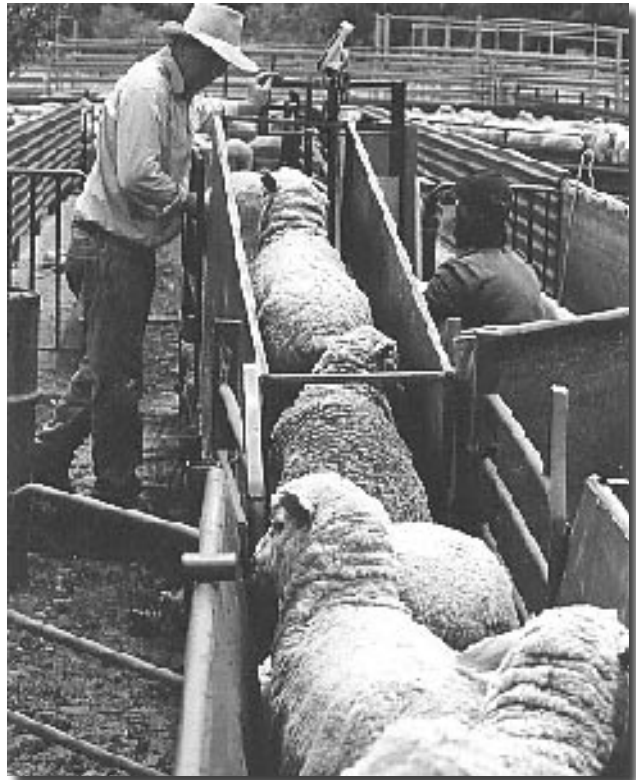
So what are we doing at Pooginook to justify this decision? We continue to sell over 1000 rams in NSW WA, Victoria, Qld. We continue to refine the genetics to produce a free growing medium wool sheep. And we are improving our management techniques to benefit from the existing genetic potential of the sheep.

At Pooginook we have reduced the micron from 22.2 to 20 micron in the breeding ewes since 1990. Our wool cuts have been maintained and we continue to increase body weights to make growth targets. The Pooginook bloodline is fertile and we are refining our management to maximize the genetics. We aim to produce 120%.

The current surge in meat prices has been a great opportunity for Merino breeders to maximize the production from their flock. There is now an incentive to finish surplus sheep for market and an abundance of information from specialists on how to achieve this.

MLA is spending huge resources on promoting "Make More from Merinos" workshops around Australia. They highlight the marketing opportunities from a Merino flock. Enterprises like wool, finishing Merino lamb for export, excess sheep, first cross ewe market, wethers for wool cutters, live sheep trade and skins.

All these enterprises are not being fully realised by most wool producers. I think the key message is management and



Neville Kelly drafting & weighing maiden ewes at East Borambil Condobolin. Penny Sutherland is recording weights & wool data

utilizing the genetic potential in our sheep also using the tools that are out there. All your eggs are not in one basket with Merinos.

During June and July Pooginook Wool Initiative is holding 2 - 2 day workshops in Temora and Kojonup WA. The focus will be Capitalising on Merino Genetics.

There are Pooginook Wool Growers that have experience in value adding. Talk to a grower

Craig and Bruce Perry

Bears Lagoon Victoria
0354379267 Craig 0354379231 Bruce
email bnjperry@bigpond.com
Feed lotting ewes

Evan Baillie

Forbes NSW
0268964241
E-mail baillie@westserv.net.au
Vitamin supplements, electrolyte additive for to increase lambing % & finish for sale. Bio clip lambs

John Sutherland

Condobolin NSW
0268953017
E-mail borambil@westserv.net.au
High lambing % and success with joining weights in maidens.

Graham Strong

Narrandera NSW
0269598644
E-mail eutaxia@bigpond.com
Grazing Saltbush, native vegetation and animal production

Pooginook Statement of Purpose

Provide advanced Merino genetics and wool marketing options for the wool industry. We want to run a profitable business while improving the natural environment, share knowledge and achieving a meaningful way of life for everyone concerned.

2004 Ram Grades

Flock rams available from \$400 to \$800
Specially Selected \$1000
Stud rams available on request
Ewes available from September 2004
Semen catalogue available www.pooginook.com or mail on request
All rams will be Fibre Diameter Analysis tested taken first week September 2004.
1400 rams available from September (NSW Stud Merino Breeders Testing Accreditation)

New Orders Welcome

Contact Pat Brown to
book a ram selection
time 0269544676 or
fax02 69544672

2003 Ram Sales



Soft white wool long stapled wool was what attracted Jock Clapin to pay \$8250 for the ram held by David Taylor in WA September 2003. (Pic Farm Weekly)

WA Ram sale

The Pooginook WA ram sale was one of the most successful ram sales in WA for 2003.

When 117 rams sold to \$8250 and averaged \$1639. The top priced ram was bought by Jock Clapin from Ballochmyle Grazing Co. The Clapins join 12000 Merino ewes and buys stud rams each year to use in the nucleus flock to breed rams for their own use. Dawson and Nancy Harris from Craigmores Stud Katanning bought the second top price ram sired by P/GK Jewell for \$5800. Major buyers were JH Nazzari & Co bought 13 rams to average \$1946 while Geoff and Wendy Thorn from Kojonup 8 rams to average \$2525. Volume buyers Newmarracarra from Geraldton, securing 23 rams to

average \$1126 David said the confidence our WA buyers show at our sale is rewarding for the hard work in operating a stud on the other side of Australia. Many of our WA clients have been using

P/GK genetics since 1948 continually and with confidence.

Rams are bred in WA and supplemented with rams from NSW.

NSW Ram sale

Pooginook daughter stud Cora Lyn owned by Rob and Kay Lindsay at Peak Hill purchased the top priced ram at the Pooginook Jerilderie sale for \$8500. At the sale 135 rams sold to average \$1719. A big crowd of regular buyers and a number of new buyer lined the lane ways of the ram sale shed viewing the top of the drop rams on a beautiful spring day.

Ray and Zarin Barber from Emrose Baldry paid a top of \$5200 and average of \$4050 for 4 rams while the Mattiske family from Stockinbingal paid \$3600 and average of \$2730 for 10 rams. Most of their rams were by P/GK Jewell although Jill Baldwin said, "we were not actually selecting on sire but type."

John and Anthea Sutherland from East Borambil Condobolin paid an average of \$2012 for a son of Jewell and 8 rams Buyers came from SA, Victoria, Qld and WA.



Rob and Kay Lindsay with top priced ram and David Taylor



The Barber family have been buying rams for 4 generations. Pictured are Dubbo based sheep classer Ian Marwedel, Ray Barber, David Taylor and Rays grandson Zarin Barber from Baldry.

**Riverina Stud Merino Field Days
At Narrandera Race Course
Friday September 10 2004**

**Pooginook on display at
Narrandera from 9 am
President David Taylor 0269546145 or
Secretary Wendy Spencer 0269591180**

2004 Programme for Pooginook

July 16-19	Fri	Bendigo Sheep Show display	NSW
July 29 & 30	Thu Fri	PGKWI workshop Temora	VIC
August 2 & 3	Mon Tue	Hamilton Sheepvention 5 rams	Vic 5 rams
August 12 & 13	Thu Fri	WA PGKWI day Kojonup	WA
August 16	Fri	WA field day Katanning display	Katanning
August 26 & 27	Thu Fri	Dubbo Sheep Show display	NSW
September 7	Tue	West Wyalong ram sale 5 rams	NSW 5 rams
September 10	Fri	Riverina Stud Merino Field Day Narrandera	NSW
September 28	Tue	Pooginook Ram Sale on property	NSW
October 7	Thu	Pooginook Ram sale Corrigin	WA
October 22	Fri	PGKWI AGM TBA	
November TBA		Dookie Sheep Trial	

Pooginook Wool Initiative Update



Feeding Merino's for performance was the message from Dr Bruce Farquarson photographed with Brian and Hugh Clancy from Pleasant Hills NSW at the West Wyalong field day. Bruce will be attending the Temora and Kojonup workshops during 2004

Results from the Survey

This year we asked members the value they placed on their membership of Pooginook Wool Initiative and how relevant it was to their business. A number of members mentioned the importance of sharing information with other growers. The 2002/2004 droughts has highlighted the support between growers. There was moral support and assisting with agistment of sheep and cattle during the dry. Also lots of talk about feed lotting sheep. It is a great network and a lot of information within the group. PGKWI information days and promotion of P/GK Bred is only part of the big picture.

There are now 2 Wool pack suppliers and some very competitive prices for members.

Capitalizing on Merino Genetics 2004 Workshops

July Thursday 29 and Friday 30 Temora NSW

Visiting properties Mattiske Family Stockinbingal,

Richard and Jenny Thackaray Young

Speakers include Bruce Farquarson Sheep Management Ian Ross MLA, AWI speaker

A dinner and speaker. All welcome Members of PGKWI will receive a discount.

A similar workshop is planned for WA on Thursday And Friday August 12 and 13

Reminder about P/GK Bred stickers and stencil. Remember to remind your wool broker to put the sticker on wool boxes for your Merino fleece, pieces and lambs wool that meets the specification of PGKWI membership. We also recommend PGKWI growers use Green ink on woolpack with the stencil. It gives it a point of difference and could be a marketing tool at no extra cost.

Congratulations to Ganelle Carnegie from West Wyalong for the encouragement award at the West Wyalong ewe hogget competitor Feb 04 John & Anthea Sutherland 3rd in the Don Brown Ewe Hogget competition and winner of the Ian Munro award for Short wool flock and First in the south side.

Bedarbidgal Past Co Hay was awarded 3rd place in the Peppin Shaw competition in Feb 2004 while Peveny TA Field Estate Pty Ltd was awarded first in the central day and 4th overall.

Kevin O'Callaghan and Cheryl Rawle sold 2 to 3 yo ewes to \$163.5 at the Hillston Sale in Sept 2003

The Olive family from Charlton Vic sold 490 wether lambs that cut 6 kg per head prior to sale and sold to \$91 and averaged \$76.

Eric McKenzie now from Cootumundra sold 339 11/2 year old unjoined ewes Sept shorn for \$121 at Deniliquin in January 2004

For details on Workshops and membership or Associate membership to Pooginook Wool Initiative

Contact

Gillian Taylor 02 69546145 or 0260234011

Email pooginook@bigpond.com

Pooginook Jerilderie NSW 2716

Bert Matthews Bedarbidgal Hay NSW 0269932118

New Members welcome. Two levels Pooginook full member or associate member. Membership fee \$55 Inc GST per year.

Natural Instinct

Natural Instinct Wool Company is now in its second year of trading and has moved through the set up stage into the marketing of 3 products. The MyVest, MyHat and MyWrap. 33 woolgrower members own the company from Pooginook Wool Initiative. There are 5 directors of the company and chaired by independent consultant Michael von Berg MC from Adelaide.



Machine washable woollen vest made by Natural Instinct Wool Co orders details below.

Sales are made directly

to customers through mail order or clubs and organisations. We custom make to your specifications.

We aim to make wool affordable and re introducing wool to the corporate market as an alternative to polar fleece products.

Our products include

MyVest a new 100% Australian fabric non-woven wool vest is produced from Australian wool. It is lightweight warm, wind resistant and machine washable and tumbles dry. Fully lined with airweave, outer is Non woven wool 85%wool.

Ideal for outdoor wear, sport clubs, special events. Smart looking comfortable and warm

Colours Navy or Black Any colour for large orders

Sizes Ladies Small to X Large Men's Small to \$X Large

Custom Logo extra charge

Prices subject to quotation

Price basic small orders \$80 inc GST plus postage

MyWrap

100% Australian wool and Australian made

Made from lightweight fabric that is warm and folds up to fit into a handbag.

Available in a range of colours

For small orders embroidered with Natural instinct or your logo

Large order embroidered or printed with company logo

Ideal for travel, fashion, gift sports

Price Natural Instinct embroidered logo \$40 Inc GST

MyHat

Custom made soft woollen hat with flexible brim. My Hat breaths in the summer and warm in the winter, Making them ideal sun protection and suitable for sporting merchandising market.

Sizes from 54 cm to 63 cm

Colour options

Band leather or embroider Logo on band by request

Style can be customised for large orders

Order form attached or phone \$55 plus post and handling

Other products being developed to extend range. Call for brochure or order

For further information contact Gillian Taylor bus 0260234011 fax 0260234022 email sales@naturalinstinctwool.com or visit www.naturalinstinctwool.com for more information.

Semen Sires

Top Sire Evaluation results

P/GK 8.19 Boxer

Macquarie Central Test Sire Evaluation – 2003. Progeny 2001 drop

- Combined Visual Assessment Highest assessment
- Clean Fleece weight Vs fibre Diameter Highest assessment
- Classers grade performance, tops vs. culls Highest assessment
- Conformation 100%

Born June 1998 tag 980844

Sire: P/GK 6.7 "Tyson" – 8.9 family

Dam P/GK special ewe

Price per ewe dose \$50. = GST

Description:

PGK Boxer is a special purpose ram. He is long bodied and robust in appearance. His structure is good and heavy boned. Boxer has a clean and open head. The skin is pliable and carries a moderate front. The wool is very soft, well marked and free growing. Boxer is best mated to top ewes showing some skin pleating or skin complication. The progeny are very predictable to the sire type. Boxer is a potent and recommended sire. His body weight was 132 k.g. on September 9 2002

Progeny of Boxer

At P/GK in January 2001, 42% of Boxer's weaner rams were classed into the Reserve Group for wool and high body weight – a good result considering he was mated to ewes that required "fixing". As a group the weaners were uncomplicated and showed good size and type. Three of Boxers' sons were in the top 14 rams to be offered for the auction sale on October 1 2002. Six of his sons were retained as sires at Pooginook for the 2002/2003 mating. A further nine are retained for the 2003/2004 mating. A son of PGK Boxer gained top price at the 2003 Auction Sale



Boxer's Fleece Tests

	Aug 1999	Aug 2000	Sept 01	Sept 2002
FD	19.9	18.8	19.9	20
CV	16.6	14.9	19.1	16.5
SD	3.3	2.8	3.8	3.3
CF	99.4%	99.8%	98.6%	99.5%

South Australian Merino Central Test Sire Evaluation- 2003. Progeny 2001 drop

- PGK Millennium 8.1 Millennium is a half brother to PGK Boxer
- performed in the top three for Fleece Value.
- Moderate reduction in FD and high gain in CFW

Sire: P/GK 6.7 "Tyson" – 8.9 family.

PGK Tyson is a big sire with exceptional bone and deep side. His wool is well nourished and deeply crimped. Progeny of Tyson are uncomplicated and are finer microning than the average. Currently Tyson has sired two P/GK Special Sires – 8.1 Millennium and Boxer 8.19.

Price: \$50 per dose + GST

MN3 P/GK Johnes Market Assurance Status

Pooginook consolidates its position as one of Australian major genetic sources by achieving the highest possible sheep health status for Ovine Johnes Disease, Footrot and Brucellosis



Pooginook Rams Sales

Hamilton Sheepvention August 4 2004

West Wyalong Ram sale Tuesday September 7

Pooginook NSW ram sale Tuesday September 28

Pooginook WA Corrigin Thursday October 7

Private selections from mid September



Specialist breeders of the Modern Merino

Pooginook offers 1600 rams annually throughout Australia and major merino semen marketer

The Statistics that count

Fine to Medium wool - 18 to 21

Wool weight - 7 to 8.5 kg

Lambing Percentage - expect 100%

NSW 150 rams to auction Tuesday September 28 2004

WA 150 rams auction at Corrigin Thursday October 7 2004



"Thinking and breeding for the future"