

ASHEEP News



New Executive Officer

February 2019

Newsletter # 52

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Meet Ken Hart, our new Executive Officer



For the past three years Ken has run his own business as a consultant to the livestock industry. He specialises in the areas of genetic improvement and reproductive success. He is a member of Sheep Genetics Service Providers Network and was recently invited to join a newly established group, Southern Beef Champions. This group works through Southern Beef Technology Services and provides extension services in beef genetics.

Prior to working for himself Ken was a research Officer at DAFWA (now DPIRD) in various roles within the Sheep Genetics program since 2002. In 2008 he became the Site Scientist at the Kataning site for the Sheep CRC's Information Nucleus Flock and the Genetic Resource Flock. This was very much a hands on role and provided a great deal of experience in the collection of information and the management of data.

Another keen interest Ken has is in Lamb Survival. Using information accumulated from post mortems on dead neonatal lambs Ken developed the very popular What Killed Your Lamb workshops. These workshops help producers to understand the underlying factors in why lambs have died but more importantly what steps can be taken to reduce mortality in the future.

Ken seems to have made a niche for himself delivering training and workshops to improve reproductive performance. In that capacity he has already enjoyed the privilege of working with many ASHEEP members through the numerous Lifetime Ewe Management groups that he facilitates in the greater Esperance region.



The concentration required when participating in the recent Dog Training School

ASHEEP 2018 Census

ASHEEP would like all farmer members to complete the annual census, either on hard copy included with this newsletter or online via Survey Monkey .

Pooled census data enables us to identify where we are at, as a region, with regard to adoption of Best Practice, key production indicators and a range of livestock health factors.

This enables us to focus our progress on the areas of greatest need.

Importantly our surveillance work also helps to build credible regional assurance values leading to better and wider market opportunities.

As an extra incentive this year we have a \$100 Loose Goose voucher to give away.



Position Vacant - Project Officer

Casual Project Officer

Up to 15 hours per week

ASHEEP is seeking a suitably qualified project officer to support pasture research & development projects in the Esperance area.

This includes establishment & management of ASHEEP's pasture trial sites as well as assisting the Executive Officer in reporting on and extending trial results to the wider farming community.

Prerequisites

- Tertiary level education in the area of agricultural science.
- Good ability with computers including word processing, excel, publisher, email, drop dox & social media
- Current "C" class drivers licence as well as own transport that allows access to trials located on farms
- Working knowledge of broadacre farming practices.

The successful applicant will have:

- Good knowledge of local agronomic practices including herbicide and fertilizer application
- Good knowledge of agronomic research trial data collection
- Ability to work independently, be self-motivated and to priorities tasks
- Excellent time management skills and ability to manage a seasonal work load

To apply for this position please forward your expression of interest, along with your resume to:
ASHEEP, PO Box 2445 Esperance WA 6450 or via email to eo@asheep.org.au

Applications close Monday 11th March 2019

Beginners Shearing School

ASHEEP Committeeman Basil Parker is organising a Beginner Shearing and Wool Handlers School starting on the 1st July 2019.

The school will run over two weeks for anyone interested in a career in the shearing industry. There will be placements for 12 to 14 shearing trainees.

AWI will provide funding for the course so there will be no cost to participants.

There will be one wool handling trainer and two shearing trainers available.

Basil would like a encourage ASHEEP members to have a learner shearer stand available in your shed at shearing and even ask your contactor if you can have a learner shearer.

For more information or to register your interest please contact Ken Hart on 0458 812 160



Sheep Sales and their OJD Status

A brief summary on the requirements of sheep sales and their OJD status

Intrastate sales

Breeding animals must be accompanied by a declaration of the property's OJD status. Once a vaccination program is in place Approved Vaccinates (lambs vaccinated before 16 weeks) can be traded as low risk animals.

There is no impact on sheep that are traded directly to an abattoir.

Interstate sales

South Australia and Queensland won't allow entry into the state from properties that are known to be infected with OJD. South Australia will allow approved vaccinates to enter the state without a requirement to be tested. However those sheep must not come from a property that is known to be infected.

Tasmania will allow sheep to enter from interstate, however that is conditional that the sheep are not subject to any form of regulatory control due to disease or condition other than OJD. This is a grey area for Western Australia because we do not regulate.

New South Wales has no restrictions on entry into the state. However there are Regional Biosecurity Areas within New South Wales and these have requirements that are stricter.

Victoria has no restrictions with respect to OJD.

Live export

Some markets have a requirement for sheep to be free of clinical disease or other evidence of freedom of OJD in the previous three years. DPIRD is required to certify that properties exporting sheep are free of such evidence. This means that a diagnosis of OJD will prevent you from accessing that market for three years.

In terms of day to day management and commercial sales within WA there is very little impact apart from those who are ram breeders or who sell premium quality ewes. Most producers who are diagnosed nowadays start vaccinating and can resume free trade within a few of years. Old ewes that haven't been vaccinated go to slaughter. Ewes that go through saleyards should be marked "Slaughter Only" on the NVD.

Dr Anna Erickson, | Veterinary Officer,
State Ovine Johne's Disease Activity Leader Biosecurity and Regulation
Agriculture and Food
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Foot Note: If in doubt when selling sheep after having had an OJD detection, provide a Sheep Health Statement outlining your vaccination program and history. If you don't explained your history in writing you could carry some legal risk.

Predicting Protein in Grain Remotely

Prof. John Howieson and his colleagues at Murdoch University are trialling a system for remote sensing of grain protein.

They would like to work with ASHEEP members who have grain protein data linked with GPS data from the 2018 harvest.

This data could be in the form of either that stored in the harvester computer, or it could be in the form of grain protein data for each truckload, if it can be linked to a paddock.

The GPS co-ordinates for the paddock can be located in google earth or you can send a screenshot of the google earth paddock shape to Murdoch and the researchers can locate the GPS data.

All data will remain confidential and the researchers are interested in wheat, barley, oats and canola. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to be involved in the trial, please contact John Howieson by email j.howieson@murdoch.edu.au or Phone 0438903705.



Worm Egg Count Resistance Testing Report

The Wormboss Project ran drench resistance testing. This is the information from one group tested last year. This report is from a mob of Ewe with an average age of 9 months they were in condition score 2-4, there had been 30mm rain in the 30 days before testing and they had never been drenched before.

Drench Test Group Details

Drench Treatment Group	Active Ingredient/s
Purple	No treatment (Con)
White	Closantel (Clos)
Orange	Moxidectin (Mox)
Green	Monepantel (Mon)
Blue	Naphthalpos (Nap)
Yellow	Abamectin (Aba)
Pink	Derquantel [®] + Abamectin (Star)
Black	Levamisole (LVS)
Brown	Albendazole (BZ)

Note: Derquantel does not come in a single active formulation.

Day 14 Nematode Count (McMaster)

Date Sampled: 02 Dec 2018

Samples received: 06 Dec 2018

Sample No	Treatment Groups								
	Con	BZ	LVS	NAP	CLOS	ABA	MOX	STAR	MON
1	3600	1650	1700	300	1200	400	150	0	0
2	1550	600	950	1800	2750	50	0	100	50
3	1100	500	1050	600	750	200	250	50	0
4	850	250		700	4050	200	0	0	0
5	1650	450	1250	1250	1550	450	0	50	0
6	1200	150	1300	100	2950	500	150	150	0
7	850	1350	750	550	1700	150	50	50	50
8	600	750	1700	0	1400	350	750	0	0
9	1550	450	1100	150	1250	0	800	0	50
10	1350	600	600	100	950	100	200	50	0
11	1100	1400	2100	1300	1800	500	200	0	0
12	950	250	1400	650	1950	250	450	0	0
13	1100	1250	800	250	2250	350	700	0	0
14	1000	650	2150	650	1500	350	250	0	0
15	900	300	700	700	1750	300	50	0	0
Average	1290	707	1254	607	1853	277	267	30	10

Larval Culture Results (% of each worm genus present)

Worm Type	Treatment Groups								
	Con	BZ	LVS	NAP	CLOS	ABA	MOX	STAR	MON
No of L3s	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	29	6
Small Brown	21	34	19	28	12	100	100	100	0
Black Scour	79	66	81	72	88	0	0	0	100

Drench Efficacy (% of worms killed)

	Treatment groups							
	BZ	LVS	NAP	CLOS	ABA	MOX	DER	MON
Overall Efficacy	45	3	53	0	79	79	98	99
Small Brown	11	12	37	18	0	2	89	100
Black Scour	54	0	57	0	100	100	100	99

Note: Closantel is a bobbers pole worm specific active which has little to nil effect on other worms.

Combination Drench calculation

Predicted efficacy (%) of combination drenches	Trichostrongylus	Teladorsagia
BZ & LVS	54	22
BZ & Abamectin	100	11
BZ & LVS & Naphthalophos	80	51
BZ & LVS & Abamectin	100	22
BZ & LVS & Moxidectin	100	23

What does this mean for your future-drenching program?

Black Scour Worms (Trichostrongylus)

Albendazole, levamisole and naphthalphos all had reduced to nil efficacy against these worms. All the other actives tested were fully effective against these worms. Future use of combinations containing any of these effective actives is recommended to ensure control of this worm when drenching.

Small Brown Stomach Worms (Teladorsagia)

All actives, apart from Zolvix, has reduced to nil efficacy against these worms. Most combination drenches contain mixes of these actives which also calculate as having much reduced efficacy.

Although Startect has reduced efficacy against these worms the nature of this combination drench means that this efficacy should stay at this level for the foreseeable future. With this in mind a drenching program where Zolvix and Startect are rotated will be a viable option for this property.

General principles of drench use are:

1. Drench when necessary i.e. when worms are likely to impact health or productivity of the sheep- use worm egg counts to check and monitor worm burdens.
2. Use effective drenches i.e. ones that have >95% efficacy against the worms present- use drench tests to check efficacy.
3. Use combinations instead of single active drenches whenever practical.
4. Use non-chemical means to control worms including paddock rotation, rotation with cattle, cropping or haymaking or pasture spelling to reduce the larval worm burden.
5. Use short-acting drenches instead of long-acting drenches unless paddocks are heavily contaminated and other solutions are impractical.
6. Quarantine drench all newly-introduced sheep with drenches that contain four active ingredients, including one of the new ones (derquantel or monepantel). In practice, this means drenching with either Zolvix Plus (monepantel + abamectin) or Startect (derquantel + abamectin) as well as a BZ + Levamisole combination such as Duocare or Scanda. Don't mix the two drenches, just drench once with each drench.

The Wormboss Project runs until the end of 2019.

Please contact Ken Hart ASHEEP EO on 0458 812 160 for more information

Platinum Sponsor - Elanco



Broad Spectrum Oral Anthelmintic for Sheep

Incorporate into your drenching program now

Widespread resistance means your drenching program may not be as effective as you think. A national survey found there is widespread resistance to white, clear and macrocyclic lactone ('mectin' or ML) drenches and their combinations in Australian sheep flocks.¹

New drenches should be incorporated into drench programs in a way that helps to preserve the efficacy of existing active ingredients while maintaining productivity.¹

Percentage of surveyed properties with <95% efficacy* against Small brown stomach worm, Black scour worm or Barber's pole worm in Australia¹

Drench active(s)	% of surveyed properties
White	96%
Clear	96%
Naphthalophos	86%
Ivermectin	87%
Abamectin	77%
Moxidectin	54%
White + clear combinations	81%
White + clear + ivermectin combinations	35%
White + clear + abamectin combinations	28%
White + clear + closantel + abamectin combination	44%*

*Differentiated faecal egg count reduction.

*Barber's pole worm only. Survey results from NSW properties only.

A unique combination drench

Zolvix Plus is a combination drench that contains monepantel, the only member of the amino-acetonitrile derivative (AAD or 'orange') class of anthelmintics, with abamectin. As short-acting, broad spectrum drenches with different modes of action, monepantel and abamectin are ideal combination partners. Using Zolvix Plus will help maintain the high efficacy of monepantel and help to protect abamectin from worsening efficacy.

Australian research has shown the administration of monepantel and abamectin in combination exerts a synergistic effect against fourth-stage larvae of Small intestinal worm (*Cooperia curtice*) and ML-resistant Small brown stomach worm (*Teladorsagia trifurcata*).²



For full product details, contact Elanco Customer Service on 1800 226 324 8 am-5 pm EST Monday to Friday.

Weaner Cattle Performance Program Results

The Weaner Performance Program was the first activity for the newly formed Beef Subcommittee.

It was developed to measure and assess key performance criteria of a selection of weaners at different points of the grain fed supply chain.

The aim was to determine the commercial productivity of each participant's cattle herd and benchmark them against other in the program.

The program was hosted by Harmony Agriculture and Food Company at Rancho East and managed by Matt Ryan and his staff.

Each participating producer entered a draft of 10 steers that were in the entry weight band of 330-350kg for backgrounding, to enter the feedlot at 450-500kg.

The goal was to reach a processing liveweight of 600kg within 100 days of being in the feedlot.

The steers were all Angus or an Angus dominant cross and while their ages varied most were around 9 months old at the commencement of the trial.

The steers were turned out onto pasture in February 2018 for backgrounding. Because of the dry end to autumn they received supplementary feedings of hay and silage until they reached the entry weight of 450kg on the 17th June 2018 when they entered the feedlot.

100 days later on the 25th September the steers were processed by V & V Walsh and were graded using the Meat Standards Australia (MSA) grading system.

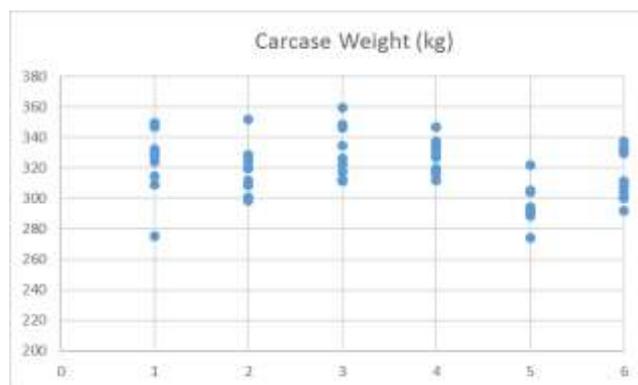
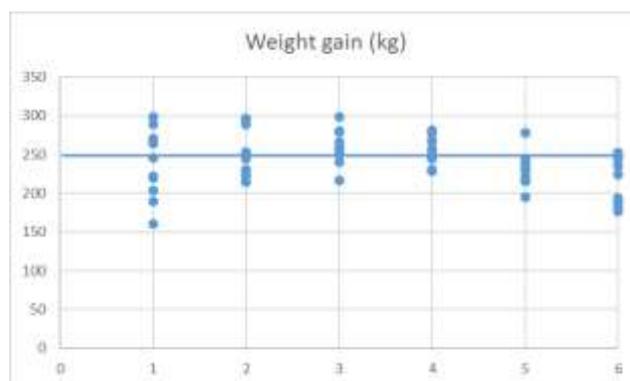
Overall, the steers all performed well and met key market goals within the allotted time period. This reflects the high quality of cattle in the Esperance area, and a well-run feedlot operation.

Each participant was assigned an ID number at the commencement of the trial. This is to ensure anonymity when discussing and presenting results.

All steers graded uniformly well in MSA index from 59.92 to 64.57, with an average of 62.45 post slaughter. The MSA index is a rating between 30 and 80 giving an indication of eating quality based on certain characteristics of each individual. There were two carcasses which were MSA ungraded due to a pH of 5.8 and 5.81 which falls outside of the MSA specification of pH less than 5.71. One of these individuals had performed poorly in terms of weight gain throughout the whole trial.



Weight gain over the entirety of the trial showed that some groups of steers were very uniform while others had more of a spread. With 250kg the goal weight gain, all groups reached this goal within the 100 day feedlot program. Higher weight gain indicates a higher feed efficiency over the backgrounding and feedlot program. This is preferable to feedlotters and farmers who do their own finishing.



The participant felt this was a successful trial and hope to repeat the trial with grass finished cattle later in the year.

We would like to thanks Matt Ryan and the staff at Rancho East for doing an excellent job at recording data and organising tours for those farmers involved in the trial.

If you would like to participate in the next trial please contact Ken Hart on 0458 812 160

Platinum Sponsor-Bankwest



Understanding Local Business.

At Bankwest, our Agribusiness Relationship Managers have an in-depth knowledge of the industries and local areas that they work in.

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FOR BUSINESS



a s h e e p
Esperance
Autumn Field Day

- Wednesday 20th March 2019 -

All farmers are welcome to join **ASHEEP** on their Annual Autumn Field Day.

- 10.30am** **Bus or Car Pool Departs Esperance Yacht Club**
- 11am** **Josh Sullivan, Gibson**– Loc 1409 Coolgardie Esperance Hwy, just North of Gibson before the 100km sign
Features of his renovated Shearing Shed
- 11.30am** **Amy Lockwood & Serina Hancock**– Murdoch University
Mineral & Vitamin Nutrition
Lamb Survival
Future Research Project
- 12.30pm** **Barbecue Lunch**—Sponsored by Rabobank
- 1.30pm** **Mineral Supplements**–
Simon Fowler on Injectables
Landmark on Mineral Licks & Loose Licks
- 2.30pm** **Condition Score Competition**– Using the Lifetime Ewe App
Ken Hart will be the umpire
- 3.30pm** **Feed Analysis Trial Results**–
- 4 pm** **Scott Welke**– Autumn cleaning weeds from Pasture

The day will conclude with a few drinks in the shed
And dinner at The Gibson Soak

\$15 Registration for Morning Tea & Lunch

RSVP by 18th of March

to Jan Clawson on 0407 990 497 or janclawson@bigpond.com

ASHEEP Platinum Sponsors



Brindley & Gale



ASHEEP Gold Sponsors



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Department of
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- Primaries Esperance
- Trac Transport
- Bayer Australia

Gold Sponsor– West Coast Wools



1 March 2019

And the winner is – WA!!! The east posted an 11c drop this week, with the EMI closing at 2016c, while the WMI went up 16c to 2177c. With the EMI covering crossbreds as well, it does get dragged down by certain micron sectors, however all indicators were down in the east while we were all up. The market started a little “iffy” on Tuesday and, for the east, remained erratic throughout the week. Of course, well measured wool was still keenly sought-after, as selections get worse and anything of inferior quality is neglected. The auction is still well and truly controlled by large Chinese mill indents and they purchase probably 65% of the wool offered.

Our dollar did not help this week, being around US71.5c most of the time and with odd spurts to US72c. However, overnight the US has recorded some good economic numbers, so we have dropped below US71c, which should provide support next week.

The South African wool auctions went ahead this week and were well supported, even though buyers cannot ship anything new to China. The respective government bodies in China are still working out how long the ban will be in place. If it continues more than two weeks, we would expect support for their auctions to wane. We haven’t heard whether wool brokers have extended prompt dates, which would be a help to buyers’ financial positions, as we all know Merino wool is expensive and needs large facilities to finance it all.

Italy was moderately quiet this week, with some sales in ultrafine 15-micron and finer, and demand for well grown



18-19 micron types still remains. However, many smaller topmakers still complain about the cheap tops coming in from China and their inability to compete on price. So these Italian topmakers claim business is slow and are reluctant to buy anything offered, even if it is under market levels. Even Marzotto is relatively quiet and, as mentioned last week, well bought out now until August, so there is no hurry.

India continues to remain a major support market for our wool, especially in the west. With our gun trader, Gavin O’Dwyer, recently back from an Indian

trade trip, we have good sales on the books and most major mills are now acquiring a considerable share of their requirements from Westcoast Wool & Livestock. We are now regarded as a major trader/supplier in India and this comes with some kudos and support from all players there.

So the sentiment is one of consolidation. Present prices, give or take 50-90c/kg, are here to stay, as auction quantities will ease-off once the wool on-hold and passed-in lots have been sold.

Enjoy!

MARKET INFORMATION FOR FORWARD THINKING GROWERS BY EXPERT ANALYST WILLIAM DAVIDSON



This wool report contains information about [subject matter] (“the information”). The information is not advice and should not be treated as such. The information is purely our views and opinions and may vary from others. You must not rely on the information in any way. We do not represent or warrant that the information is correct, accurate or complete. We will not be liable to you in respect of any loss caused or contributed to by the use or reliance on the information. You must not reproduce or redistribute the information to any person or organisation.

Platinum Sponsor– Summit Fertilizer



Pasture Products

Summit Superphosphate

Summit Superphosphate is a high quality superphosphate with good granule strength and low dust component.

Analysis (%)		
	S	Ca
9.1	11.0	20.0

For the user this means a very even spread pattern which leads to less stripping in the pasture and more even production. Handling and loading issues are also reduced.

Super Pasture

A spreading fertilizer with a well balanced ratio of Phosphorus:Sulfur which is

Analysis (%)		
P	S	Ca
13.7	10.5	17.0

ideal for legume pastures. An even granule size provides you with consistent spreading of both fast acting and sustained release sulfur. SuperPasture has higher phosphorus levels so you also get significant savings in freight and handling.

Superpotash

All of the pasture products have a standard range of potash fertilizers available. These are listed on the reverse of this page. In addition, if you have other requirements, Summit can meet them with our custom formulation capabilities.

You can add trace elements with potash or change the ratio of phosphorus and potassium to suit your paddock's needs.

Contact Your Local Area Manager



Nick Donkin
Esperance East
0428 715 045

ndonkin@summitfertz.com.au



Tim Donkin
Esperance West
0408 092 355

tdonkin@summitfertz.com.au

Exhibiting Wool at the Esperance Show

With autumn shearing well under way I would like to remind growers to support the Esperance Agricultural Show by exhibiting some wool.

There is a class for every type of wool from lamb's wool to rams wool and everything in between. We have a fine, medium and strong class for lambs, weaners, ewes, wethers and rams for both the farmers section and studs. There is also a superfine class in the farmers section. On top of this there is three matching fleeces and the commercial fleece for both sections.

Recently I have added a performance class for both the Farmer and Stud sections. This class is for growers who shear their sheep within a 12-month period i.e. prem shearing. They must do this on a commercial basis. This is in place to eliminate the pet wether that's been living under the cloths line for the last 6 months.

I am considering adding a performance ram class this year as well, mainly for the stud section as some studs in Esperance prem shear.

In the past I've heard comment like "my wool isn't good enough" or "it's been a tough year and I think it'll look crappy amongst everyone else's". If you are having a tough year so is everyone else and there is a class for all types, so your wool will fit and how about let the judge decide, you might be surprised.

I also hear from growers, that we only show the whitest, brightest, finest wool. Last year's show, 80% of exhibits were trying to get into the fine wool section please consider the strong ram class or the strong weaner class.

With the lambs and weaner classes you only need a minimum amount of 2.27kg (5lb) and with lamb's wool it can be a blend and not from an individual animal.

At the 2018 show we had less than half of the classes with exhibits in them and most only had 1 or 2 entries.

It is quite possible to win the fleece of the show from the strong wool classes if it fits the class and stands out in its class.

All in all, there are 32 classes, we don't have to use all of them, but we need to cater for all wool growers who wish to exhibit.



We don't have any classes outside of the Australian Merino spectrum, but if you would like any classes for other breeds added or think we need to modernise the current wool classes please contact Andrew Beaton on the number below. These suggestion need to be in by the end of May.

Although it's great to be a winner, we mainly wish to showcase our beautiful local wool.

After the show, exhibits can be donated to either the R.F.D.S. Esperance Auxiliary or Esperance Aged Care. You can also collect your fleece at the end of the show. It would be appreciated if this information is communicated at the time of entry.

Judges are invited from the pool of local wool brokers in Esperance and I try to rotate them each year to eliminate any bias. Judges are not privy to any information about the entries until the conclusion of judging.

Any question regarding exhibiting your wool, class options and tips on storing your exhibits please don't hesitate to contact Andrew Beaton on 0447 954 154.

Landmark Livestock Update



A pre-lamb program protects ewes and lambs every step of the way.

Key messages

- A strategic pre-lambing health program optimises lamb survival and growth rates even before lambs hit the ground.
- Drenching and vaccinating ewes during late pregnancy protects both ewes and unborn lambs against economically-important infectious diseases and internal parasites.
- The Survive to Thrive Pre-Lamb Program offers producers a comprehensive and effective strategy to set lambs up for a lifetime of prime productivity.

During late pregnancy and throughout lambing, ewes and lambs are at the greatest risk of contracting a range of devastating diseases and internal parasites, which cost Australian sheep producers more than half a billion dollars in lost production and control measures each year. However, recent research indicates many of these health impacts can be prevented with an effective pre-lambing drench and vaccination program¹.

Leading animal health company, Zoetis, has developed the comprehensive Survive to Thrive Pre-Lamb Program², to help sheep producers effectively and successfully manage the health of their ewes and lambs during this critical period.

The Program delivers a simple and effective vaccination and drench program, implemented during late pregnancy, to boost ewe health and lamb survival and growth rates. The Program also helps producers manage drench resistance and maintain low-worm-risk pastures for maximum lamb and weaner growth.

Protection promotes productivity

Research indicates that for a range of priority diseases impacting Australian sheep enterprises, prevention is the most cost-effective and productive option³. Clostridial diseases, including pulpy kidney, tetanus, black disease, black leg and malignant oedema, cost our sheep industry an estimated \$32 million per year⁴.

Vaccinating pregnant ewes with Glanvac® 6S B12 prior to lambing will protect ewes and their unborn lambs against the major clostridial diseases and cheesy gland (CLA) and provide a valuable B12 boost at the same time. Pre-lambing is an ideal time to provide your ewes with additional vitamin B12, to support energy production, body and wool growth when they need it the most.

Protection during pregnancy

Protect your lambs against erysipelas arthritis by including an Eryvac® vaccination alongside Glanvac 6S B12 prior to lambing.

Erysipelas arthritis causes crippled lambs through lameness, swollen joints and reluctance to stand or walk. Arthritis is estimated to cost the sheep industry \$39 million per year⁵ and is a common problem in unprotected newborn lambs*.

Reducing the worm burden

Worm burdens cost the Australian sheep industry approximately \$436 million each year⁶. Worm infestations in both ewes and lambs impact on lamb vigour and growth through compromised live weight gains and reduced lactation⁶.

In addition to direct production losses, drench resistance is increasingly common throughout Australia. Protect your ewes at their most vulnerable time and get your lambs off to the best start by drenching ewes with a short-acting, highly-effective option, such as Startect® four weeks out from lambing.

Startect was proven to be 99% effective in more than 200 local farm trials across Australia, even killing worms resistant to other drench classes^{7,8}. With a withholding period (WHP) of 14 days and export slaughter interval (ESI) of 28 days, Startect offers producers a fully-effective drench with flexibility⁹ when speed to market is important.

Delivering a pre-lamb drench not only protects ewes, but in combination with a strategic grazing program, allows you to manage worm burdens and pasture contamination throughout and beyond lambing.

A strategic annual pre-lamb program, including vaccine boosters and drenching not only optimises the health of your ewe flock — it sets your lambs up for success from the very start, helping increase the number of healthy lambs you wean each year.

About Zoetis

Zoetis is the leading animal health company, dedicated to supporting its customers and their businesses. Building on more than 75 years of experience in animal health, Zoetis discovers, develops, manufactures and markets veterinary vaccines and medicines, complemented by diagnostic products and genetic tests and supported by a range of services. Zoetis serves veterinarians, livestock producers and people who raise and care for farm and companion animals with sales of its products in 120 countries.

Continues on next page

Landmark Livestock Update

* Erysipelas arthritis is the most common cause of arthritis, but is not the only cause.

1 Meat & Livestock Australia Limited. Priority list of endemic diseases for the red meat industries. MLA Final report. March 2015.

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Gold Sponsor Editorial– Rabobank

Strong prospects for lamb and wool markets, but mounting challenges on the horizon – Rabobank report

The outlook for lamb and wool prices in 2019 is positive, according to Rabobank's 2019 Agribusiness Outlook, however there are some potential challenges on the horizon that could significantly impact the sector.

In its recently-released flagship annual Outlook, the agribusiness banking specialist said strong global demand and limited local supplies are set to support local lamb prices in 2019. While wool supply would support strong prices, the demand side of the equation is more uncertain.

Strong lamb prices in 2018 – close to AUD 2/kg above the five-year average – were the result of a “combination of limited domestic supplies, a strong US market, growing demand from China, and flat production from New Zealand,” the report said. With the bank expecting all these market drivers to remain similar in 2019.

“That said, further upward price movement driven by the US will be limited, as current high Australian lamb prices have eroded the imported to local product basis,” the report said.

Mutton prices are also expected to remain firm in 2019, given the more limited supplies and strong global demand.

For the wool sector, the report said “following a large sheep slaughter in 2018, overall wool production will fall in 2018/19, supporting ongoing strong prices”. That said, “it is not as certain that the demand side of the equation will support ongoing strong prices.”



Angus Gidley-Baird

Industry forecasts suggest shorn sheep numbers will fall by six per cent, with the average cut per head falling by four per cent, resulting in an 11 per cent reduction in wool production. And with continuing dry conditions, albeit better than 2018, the report said, sheep numbers would remain low in 2019, limiting growth in wool production into the next season.

Despite strong market prospects for both lamb and wool, the report cautioned some “watch” factors. Brexit and the risk of a “calamitous exit” of the UK from the EU was looming large, it said, while the slowdown in the Chinese economy and escalating international trade tensions was also a mounting challenge.

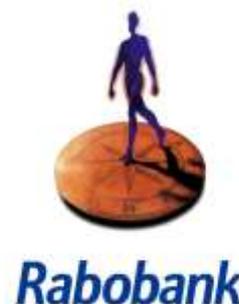
“It (China) grew at its slowest rate since 1990 in 2018, and while officially the rate was still 6.6 per cent, many pundits (us included) believe the deceleration is far greater and risks will be worsening through the coming year,” the report said.

For wool, the report said, US-China trade tensions, Chinese economic growth, slowing retail sales, and continued historically-wide ratios with other competing fibres create a degree of uncertainty in the market.

For the Western Australian sheep industry, the report said the voluntary industry suspension of trade during the Middle Eastern summer months of June, July and August is set to impact export volumes in 2019.

But what could be a “bigger issue” is whether there will be a change of federal government that would result in legislative change to end the trade, the report said.

For more information on Rabobank's research, please contact Rabobank Esperance on 08 9076 4200 or download the RaboResearch podcast app.



Pasture Fertilizer Response Trial Results

CSBP FIELD RESEARCH

Re-seeding + fertiliser drives Ryegrass production in Esperance
Esperance, 2018



BACKGROUND

Growing your own feed on farm has been proven to be the most economical feed source. When faced with the prospect of re-seeding pastures is the re-establishment enough or can production be pushed further with a targeted nutrition strategy?

AIM

To determine the key nutritional drivers of maintaining longevity in newly improved pastures on Esperance's coastal sand plain.

KEY MESSAGES

Growing your own feed is the cheapest option.

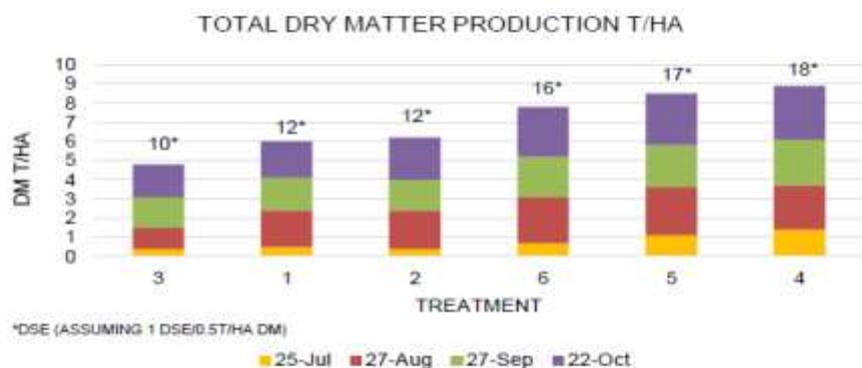
Treat pasture like a crop with good management such as using good seeding equipment, soil testing and good nutrition.

Super Phos Extra drove early feed production and maximised total growth.

Re-seeding the pasture increased feed quality whilst additional P + N maximised total DM.

TRIAL DESIGN			
TREATMENT	TD April	P	K
1	Nil		
2	2t/ha lime		
3	70kg/ha MoP		35
4	215kg/ha SuperPhos Extra	19.5	
5	215kg/ha Super Phos Extra + 70kg/ha MoP + 2t/ha Lime	19.5	35
6	215kg/ha Super Phos Extra + 70kg/ha MoP	19.5	35

SOIL TEST DATA									
Depth (cm)	pH	EC	OC	Nit N	Amm N	P	PBI	K	S
0-10	4.7	0.17	1.8	49	9	10	12	73	9
10-20	4.3	0.03	0.55	5	1	7	14	28	2.3
20-30	4.7	0.02	0.34	3	1	4	13	19	1.3



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