




Your Sheep Enterprise

“More Money For Less Work...”

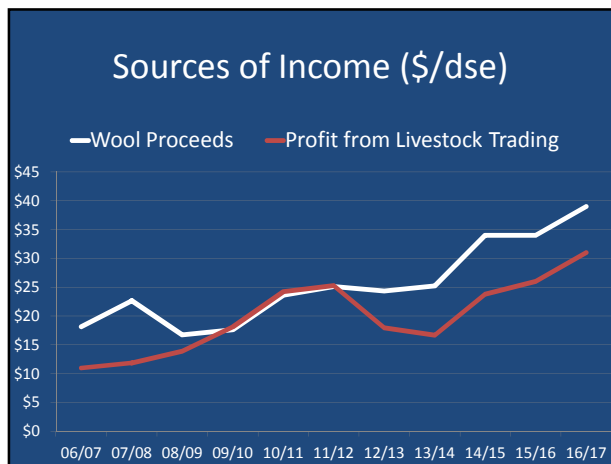
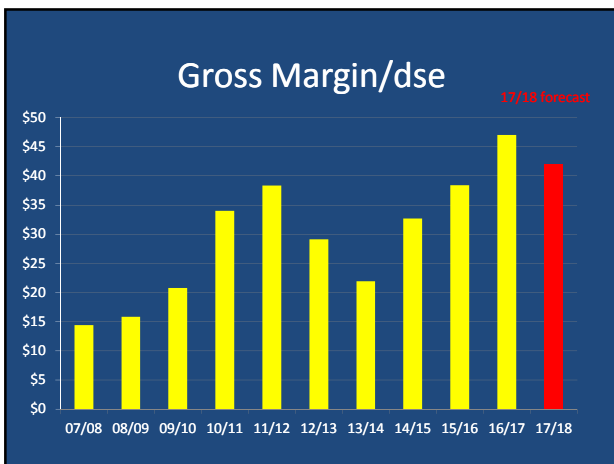
Mark Allington
Icon Agriculture



Today's Points

Sheep and Wool are astonishingly good now

- I. Grab the low hanging fruit
- II. Make life easier



Clickers (Interactive Keypads)

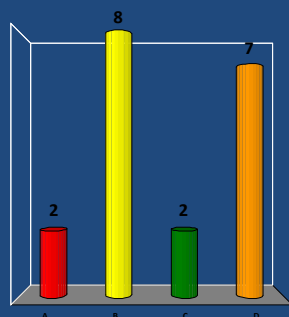
Can the Eagles win the Grand Final?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Don't Care

Option	Number of Votes
Yes	5
No	4
Don't Care	6

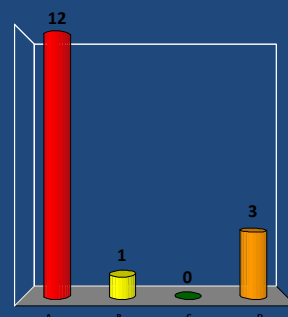
Cropping Enterprise Rank the following?

- Amount of Fert?
- Weed control?
- Variety choice?
- Time of Sowing?



Sheep Enterprise Rank the following?

- Amount of FOO?
- Worm control?
- Ram Source?
- Time of Lambing?



Yield is King

- Kg Wool per sheep hectare
- Sheep Sold per sheep hectare
– Lambs born per ewe hectare?

Low Hanging Fruit

- Condition Score of 3 makes an easy recipe
- Sheep Feeding is about energy and efficiency
- Worms
- Flies
- Weaner Management
- Benchmarking

Manage to CS = 3

- Sheep maintained at CS are easier to manage and more productive.
 - Learn what condition scoring is
 - Engage in a Lifetime ewe Course

Feeding

- Feeding Sheep is about energy!
 - 60kg Dry Ewe needs 10 MJ/day
 - Lactating Ewe needs 25 MJ/day
- Understand the cost per unit Energy you are buying (c/MJ)

Feeding

- Lupins @ \$300/T = 2.14 c/MJ (plus ptn)
- Oats @ \$160/T = 1.54 c/MJ
- Barley @ \$200/T = 1.63 c/MJ

Do the maths

Feeding

- Lupins @ \$280/T = 2.14 c/MJ (plus ptn)
- Oats @ \$160/T = 1.54 c/MJ



But more energy per load, plus protein

This Winter... Grow Feed

- Increased fertiliser spend means more feed and less hand feeding
- 50kg/ha urea split @ 15 kg/DM/unit N
= 350kg DM
= 1.00 c/MJ
- Green feed is by far the cheapest and highest quality source of feed

Worms

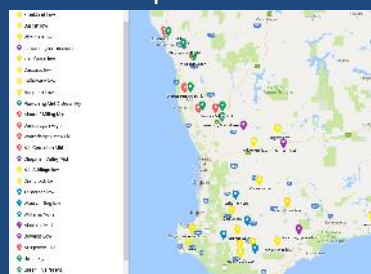
1. CS3 reduces WEC
2. Long acting products make life easy
3. Measure WEC instead of "drench anyway"
4. ASBVs can be used to breed resistance

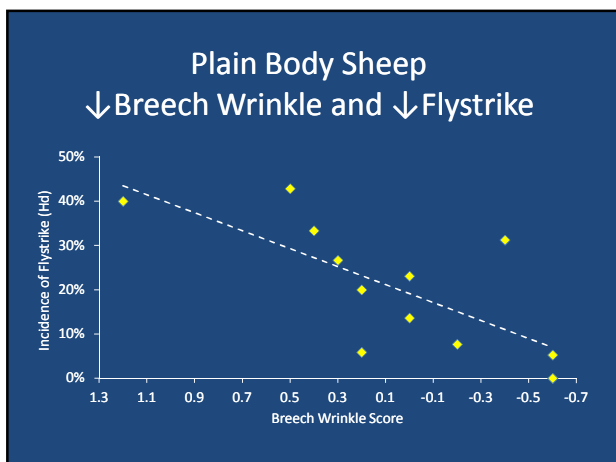
Flies

1. Predict Flies
2. Breeding Plain Bodied Sheep
3. Choice of chemical
4. Time of shearing?

Predict Flies

1. Temps over 15 Degrees
2. Recent Rain
3. Wind speeds below 9kmh

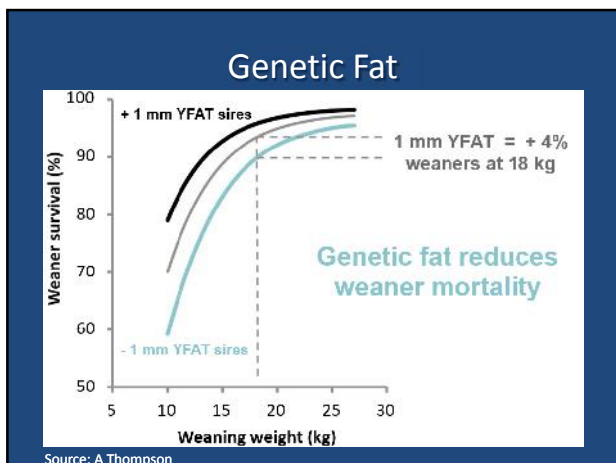
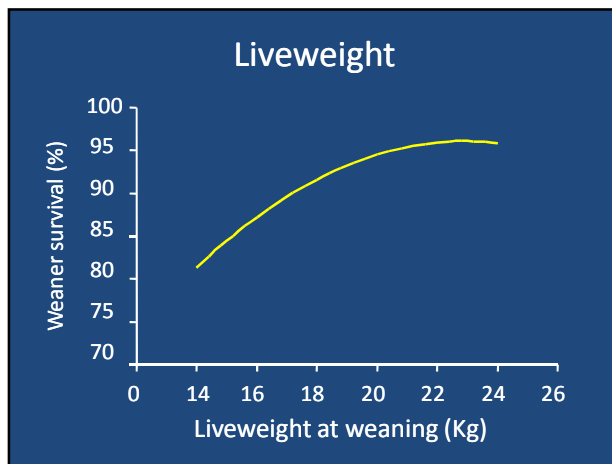
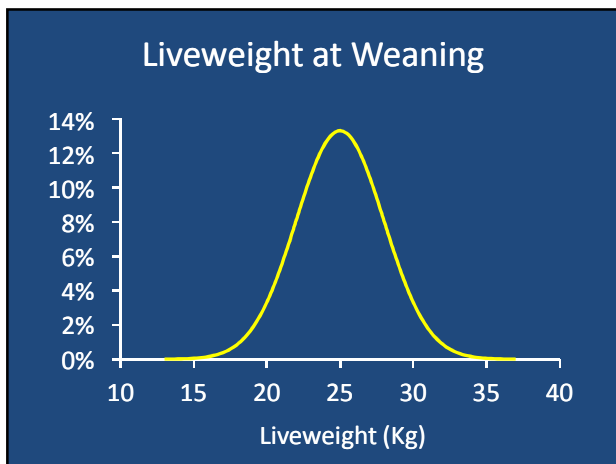




Keeping Weaners Alive

- Environment
 1. Live weight @ Weaning
 2. Growth Rate post weaning
 3. Management
- Genetics
 1. Fat

= G X E



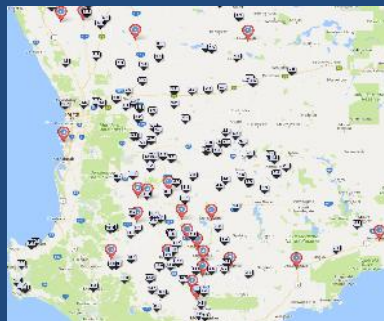
Target Growth Rates

- Most important thing!
- 2kg/month for weaners < 20kg
- 1 kg/month for weaners 20-30kg

Weaner Management

- Set weaning targets (20kg min)
- They need protein to grow (+1kg/mth)
- They run out of Vitamin E
- They need good water
- Manage light weaners

Benchmarking

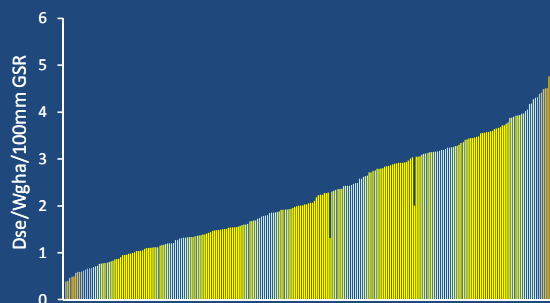


Sheep Yield

1. Kg Wool per sheep hectare
2. Sheep Sold per sheep hectare
 - Lambs born per ewe hectare
3. All driven by stocking rate

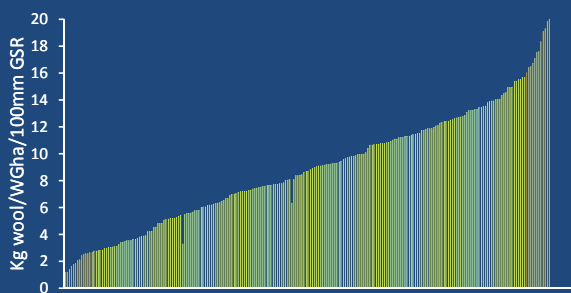
Stocking Rate

0.5 – 5 dse/WGha/100mm GSR



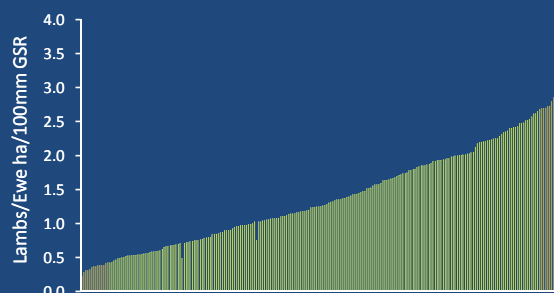
Wool Production

1.2 – 20.6 kg/WGha/100 mm GSR



Lamb Production

0.22 - 3.52 lambs/ewe ha/100mm GSR

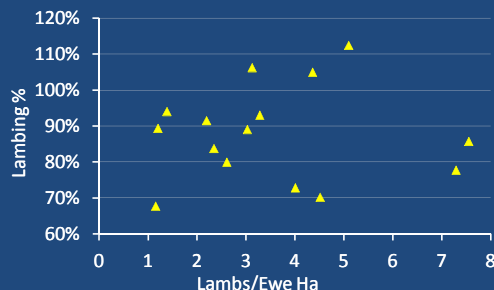


Local Benchmarking

- 70 km radius of New Norcia
- 263-328 mm GSR
- 2.5 – 13.2 dse/wgha
- 9.1 – 35.4 kg/ha wool
- 1.4 – 7.5 lambs/Ewe ha

Local Benchmarking

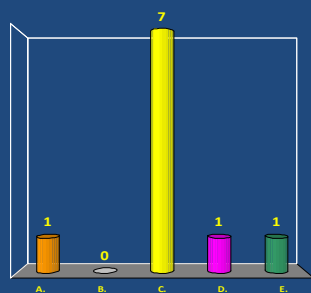
- Lambing rate vs lambs/ewe ha



Yield is King

What is your number for wool production?

- A. 10-20 kg/ha
- B. 20-30 kg/ha
- C. 30-40 kg/ha
- D. 40-50 kg/ha
- E. Don't Know



Innovation

- How can we get our hands off the sheep and get more done?



Conclusions

- Sheep enterprise at record gross margins
- Wool prices are record levels
- Sheep prices are strong
- Sheep don't have to be hard
- Low Hanging Fruit is ripe
 - Make the most of the good times!