

# 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL **YALGOO** MILESTONE SALE

80 Profit Driving Merinos  
1000 High Performance Merino Ewes

Saturday 1st February, 2020  
12pm at Yalgoo Woolshed  
Sale interfaced on auctionsplus



[www.yalgoogenetics.com.au](http://www.yalgoogenetics.com.au)



# WELCOME

## Yalgoo Genetics “The Empirical Path to more Profit”

**WELCOME** to our **31st** Ram Sale.

This time last year we were all turning the page on a difficult 2018 and looking forward to 2019 with some hope. Unfortunately, 2018 proved to be a matinee for the evening feature film, that was 2019. It is rare to come through two of the worst years on record and be able to claim to be lucky. But with the acute crisis of fires to the east of us, our support, thoughts and empathy are with those that have been affected.

We know this is a ram sale catalogue, but the seedstock business is inherently a ‘people’ business and our clients are our friends and family, so we sincerely hope that a general drenching is imminent. The flip side of this, is that we learn quickly through adversity and I am sure we will all be able to do more with less after this experience. To those of you that have missed family commitments, holidays and ignored weekends for 2 or 3 years to keep animals fed and watered take a minute and give yourself a pat on the back. With a general rain event your breeding stock will be extremely valuable.

The drought has meant that the sale rams will present lighter than normal. However, the rams are in good condition to perform their primary function. Those of you, who regularly attend our sale appreciate that we will never win the “feeding competition”. We believe there is no value in ‘stuffing’ them full for our clients. I encourage you to look beyond the feed bucket when making your decisions surrounding genetics. Buying fat rams makes you feel good at the auction, but if the genes are wrong then the long-term pain is enduring.

The challenges of 2018/19 have highlighted the unique nature of the Merino ewe. Due to the different environments where Yalgoo genetics reside, we have seen extremely good performance under contrasting conditions. The following three examples demonstrate the importance of genetics that excel in the profit sensitive traits to overall business health:

In the New England in lowest decile rainfall Yalgoo

clients were able to generate **\$106 of EBIT per ha/100mm**. This is close to **double the EBIT/per/ha/100m** of the best wool producers (top 20%) in the Holmes and Sackett database for 2018.

In Longreach, Yalgoo client Cindy Taylor achieved an outstanding EBIT of \$30/DSE. This EBIT under industry average OH's and enterprise costs would generate a ROA of around 10% in pastoral QLD.

In Tasmania, the Bennett family have been using Yalgoo genetics for 15 years. In that time they have built what is potentially Australia's most profitable wool flock. The Ashby flock has increased EBIT/DSE from \$8.60 to an **astounding \$77/DSE in 2018**. The top 20% of wool producers in the Holmes and Sackett database achieved an EBIT of \$47.36/DSE in 2018. If we take into account the superior business performance of Holmes and Sackett benchmarked businesses to industry average, the case is very strong this is a new mark in wool business profitability.

If you compare this to long term EBITs of the average Prime lamb and beef business of around \$10-12/DSE; you can appreciate the extreme profitability of a good Merino business using gainful genetics. These strong businesses are generating between 3 and 7 times as much profit!!

Slowly, the wheel is turning and the industry is again being reminded that profitability is measured per ha and not per head. For many years we have advocated for sensible sized mature sheep and cattle. With nationwide high supplementary feeding costs, at a genetic level this issue has come to the forefront. Our analysis on the correlation between body weight and fleece value suggests a correlation of around .02. On full feed for a year 1000, extreme, high growth adult weight ewes would have a cost in the vicinity of \$180 000 to feed. That same flock of moderate, mature weight ewes would have cost in the vicinity of \$110 000 for the same rate of gain. If this same extreme flock is light cutting and broad in FD (of which there are plenty) then the issues compound in the income column.

Remember the majority of your DSEs are taken up by your breeders. The optimal genetic profile is early growth to reach market and fertility targets and then for them to plateau.

## “Fertile sheep with early growth, a mid maturity pattern and high fleece values are king!”

Our Y/7-15 index continues to be adopted by some of Australia's top wool producers. The Yalgoo index gives our clients the best of both worlds. This index will give more GFW than any other index whilst still putting slight downwards pressure on FD. This approach has also had a strong tick of validation in the recent results of the NSW DPI wether trial. The teams with the most favourable combination of GFW and FD had the highest fleece values. Excitingly 3 of the 6 highest fleece values teams were Yalgoo clients. The first year winners for \$/hd (Congi) and \$/DSE (Street family) were both long term Yalgoo clients. There were 36 teams entered in the wether trial. We look forward to seeing the most recent result from this highly contested trial. Congratulations and thank you to our valued clients for testing Yalgoo genetics.

A good way to compare the genetic merit of Yalgoo rams is to use the CRC's Ram Select tool (<https://www.ramselect.com.au/#/searchCatalogs/>). You can readily compare Rams from different sources using industry indexes OR change the weightings on traits to suit your business requirements. Please take a look at our combination of GFW and FD ASBV's and compare them to the industry. We believe we have the most favourable combination of these traits in the industry. We are also proud of the balance of secondary profit driving traits like EMD, FAT, YWT and WEC in the catalogue.

For the history of the Australian wool industry there has always been a premium for wool 2 microns or more finer than the national clip average. This has increased significantly when the supply of wool 2 microns finer than the clip average has been limited. This is why we have positioned our weighted clip average well below 19 microns. If you are above this, history tells us you will **receive a price discount every year** for your wool.

Over the past 10 years declining terms of trade have presented us with an inflation rate of 2.2%. Good genetics are cheap; the gains are cumulative and offer a comfortable buffer over and above inflation. Yalgoo sheep continue to be profitable even when the cost of production increases. This is because they are not your average fine wool merino. They are unique. They offer MORE GFW-LOWER FD and the right of balance of fertility and cost of production traits!

## Yalgoo merinos are unique because...

- ✓ This is one of the highest indexing sales in Australia: 2020 sale team average in the top **3%** of the breed for the FP+ index and top **7%** for MP+
  - ✓ 90% of the catalogue is ranked in the top 5% of the breed for FP+
  - ✓ Yalgoo merinos bend the Fleece Weight/Fibre Diameter curve. In the past 10 years we have increased genetic CFW by **25%** and decreased F.D by **0.1** micron.
  - ✓ Yalgoo rate of gain has been over **twice** as fast as the average superfine flock for FP+ (330%) and MP+(240%) indexes
  - ✓ Yalgoo has **5** of the top 10 ranked superfine sires in the industry
  - ✓ Yalgoo has forged its reputation on wether trial success
  - ✓ Every sale ram is backed by nearly **50 years** of objective measurement. Meaning genetic progress is both rapid and assured. Sale rams are mainly drawn from the **top 30%** of the drop
  - ✓ Yalgoo merinos demand a premium in the market place. Yalgoo surplus sheep have averaged **35%** more than market day averages over the past 8 years. Selection is driven by **PROFIT NOT FADS**
- Also of note:
- All Yalgoo rams are independently assessed for structural and fertility traits
  - All Yalgoo sheep are visually classed for any **economic fault**
  - Yalgoo remains one of the few studs taking Staple Strength measurements

## Yalgoo 7/15 Index

In the catalogue you will again notice the presence of our custom index (Y-7/15). A detailed description of this index and why we have developed it, are contained within the catalogue. **This index will increase fleece weight as a faster rate than other industry index.**

## Twins

Twins are likely to be finer, heavier cutting and have heavier body weights than their actual data suggests. One of the advantages of using ASBV's is that this genetic response is already included in the ASBV. Therefore a twin's progeny will perform at a higher level than his own data suggests and this is reflected in their favourable ASBV's.

## Carcase Traits

Although under optimal stocking rates these remain on the second tier of profit driving traits in a wool growing enterprise. We remain mindful of the various uses of our genetics in sheep businesses. We are proud of the balance of secondary profit driving traits like EMD, FAT, YWT and WEC in this year's catalogue.

## INFLUENTIAL 2020 SIRES

The 2020 offering represents the most even spread of sires we have had. In the past we have had a heavy representation of outlier sires that have saturated our sale and sire batteries. However, with constant, rapid genetic gain we have lifted our sire battery to the point where there is a more even genetic representation from sires. Three or four years ago we would have been happy to have the balance of ASBV's that this sale has in the semen collection centre.

**Y1670 (poll):** Our most heavily used AI sire. 160070 (Billy) has had over 1000 progeny tested in his first year of progeny. Their performance has underpinned his importance to the industry. High accuracy (96%) top 1 % for YCFW and supported with top 3% YFD. When combining his genetic performance with a superior structure and outstanding wool Billy will be our go-to sire for increased profitability for many years. He is a wool type/structure and profitability changer.

**Y1655 (poll):** For some 160055 was the pick of the 16 drop for his wool purity, length and carcase shape. From my point of view his progeny has validated him as a unique, profitable sire. His ASBV's demonstrate that his progeny grow quickly, are heavy cutting and exhibit excellent shape and do ability before tapering off to a sensible sized mature ewe. Top 3% YCFW, Top 1% YFD, Top 6% YWEC, Top 10% YFAT, Top 20% YEMD

**CP204 (poll):** Top of the breed for fleece weight combined with a strong balance of growth and carcase traits. Much more aligned with where the industry should be going for growth. He gets his extra weight from his stout shape – which is the efficient way!

**CP379(poll):** A profitable genotype combined with a terrific phenotype. We selected 379 to re-enforce our production traits. He really stamps them sound, plain, easy doing with a stylish, bright wool and produces a low cull/top ratio. He is a high accuracy trait leader for all indexes.

**THANK YOU** for taking an interest in our 2020 ram sale.

Please don't hesitate to contact us prior to the sale for an inspection or further information.

**2020 YALGOO SALE IS INTERFACED ON AUCTIONSPLUS++**

## A FEW YALGOO GENETIC SUCCESS STORIES FROM LOCALLY AND ABROAD

Bennett Family (Tasmania)	Achieved the unheard of \$77/DSE of EBIT in 2018 and a gross margin/dse of \$99 \$/DSE in their wool enterprise went from \$8.60 to \$42 in 7 years. An increase of 500% after switching to Yalgoo genetics. 3 yr average weaning percentages jumped from 78% to 109% in 8 years on Yalgoo genetics. In 2018 the Bennett's marked 120% lambs to ewes joined.
Congi (TAF)	Ranked no.1 for fleece value/hd. for their team of wethers in year one of the Glen Innes wether trial. (36 teams)
Street Family (Blaxland)	Ranked no. 1 for \$/DSE. for their team of wethers in year one of the Glen Innes wether trial. (36 teams)
Taylor Family (Birahlee)	Ranked top 6 for fleece value/hd. for their team of wethers in year one of the Glen Innes wether trial. (36 teams)
Cindy Taylor	Congratulations Cindy on a dominant Benchmarking result of \$30/DSE at Longreach. Also selling a bale of 17 micron wool for \$3040 potentially the highest ever from pastoral QLD. Cindy continues to defy pundits with what she does at Longreach and is an understated industry leader.
McLaren Family (Woolbrook)	Their sire Nerstane 080121 (by Yalgoo 050448) performed strongly in the Balmoral Sire Evaluation in Vic: 2nd GFW, 2nd WEC
Uruguayan users of Yalgoo 050448	Yalgoo 448 has the second most progeny on the Uruguayan data base of over 700 sires. He ranks in the top 2.5% for all indexes
Keddie Family (Scone)	Selected for exclusive Giovanni Schneider Traceability study
Users of Yalgoo 080068	Ranked 3rd on the all time Superiors Sires list. Over 1100 progeny recorded. Will improve all profit driving and cost traits simultaneously. Bullet proof WEC: -72.  <b>68 topped all the indexes in the 2013 drop NE Sire Evaluation &amp; ranked no. 1 on Superfine sire list on SGA.</b>

## SOME KIND WORDS ABOUT YALGOO GENETICS

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### **Juan Perez Jones from Los Manantiales Merino stud in Uruguay.**

Juan has the top ranked ram of over 700 sires on two indexes in Uruguay

*"Some breeders had used Y05448 with great success and last year Mr. Rodolfo Fernandez donated semen from this ram to evaluate at the INIA Nucleus, which confirmed his performance. I congratulate these results and by those who are achieving in your country, If I were to go to Australia I would like to visit again as we share many goals in Merino breeding".*

### **Anthony Uren Manager of Congi Station (T.A. Fields)**

Through Anthony's stewardship; T.A Fields push the innovation boundaries in the pursuit of profit. We learn more from Congi than they do from us

*"Our faith in Yalgoo Genetics only grows stronger. The Nivison's unwavering focus on production and profit is delivering real commercial outcomes to our merino enterprise. Evidenced most recently with Congi wethers producing the highest average fleece value in the 2016 Glen Innes wether trial, coupled with independent benchmarking indicating our flock is delivering Industry leading profitability."*

### **Charles Downie; owner/operator of Glenelg estates- Tasmania**

We are proud to be associated with Charles and his family.  
Charles is a great ambassador for innovation and wool profitability.

*"I have used Yalgoo genetics almost exclusively for over 10 years. They have measurably improved the key traits that underpin the profitability of the wool flock."*

## SALE DETAILS

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### PLEASE BRING THIS CATALOGUE TO THE SALE

#### **All Figures are ASPV's**

The actual performance of individual lots will be printed on sale day

#### **Details of Ram Group from which Sale rams are drawn:**

Lambd October - November 2018	Date last shorn: September 2019	Average F.D: 14.1
Age when tested: 9 months	Number tested: 246	Average CV%: 19.8
Wool Growth when tested: 9 months	Average Yield: 65	

#### **FLOCK PERFORMANCE**

Average Flock Fleece Diameter of whole clip at 2019 shearing: 15.7 microns. All sale lots have been independently assessed for face cover, feet, testicle circumference and tone.

#### **DISCLAIMER**

The vendors, family, sale staff and representatives accept no liability for accidents that may occur, although these are rare at sales, any person attending does so at their own risk.

The following is a description of the Annual offering of Yalgoo rams and an explanation of the operation of the sale.

#### **STUD SIRES**

Sires used in the Yalgoo Stud are turned over quickly to increase the rate of genetic progress. We believe strongly in the principle that a good sire will quickly make himself redundant through breeding better sons. As a result, a variable number of Yalgoo sires will be available at the annual sale. These sires will be sold under the Helmsman system. The details of how it works are available on the sale day.

#### **FLOCK IMPROVER RAMS**

Each year, the entire drop of Yalgoo rams is ranked in descending order of genetic merit on a selection index. The index ranks the rams essentially on net fleece value. The Yalgoo flock improver rams are drawn mainly from the top 40% of the drop, have minimal fault, and will sire above average progeny. These rams are penned and auctioned individually. Yalgoo flock improver rams are preferred by clients wishing to make the biggest and quickest genetic gains in their flocks.

#### **FLOCK RAMS**

Yalgoo flock rams are drawn from the top 60% of the drop and are available for paddock sales with performance data.

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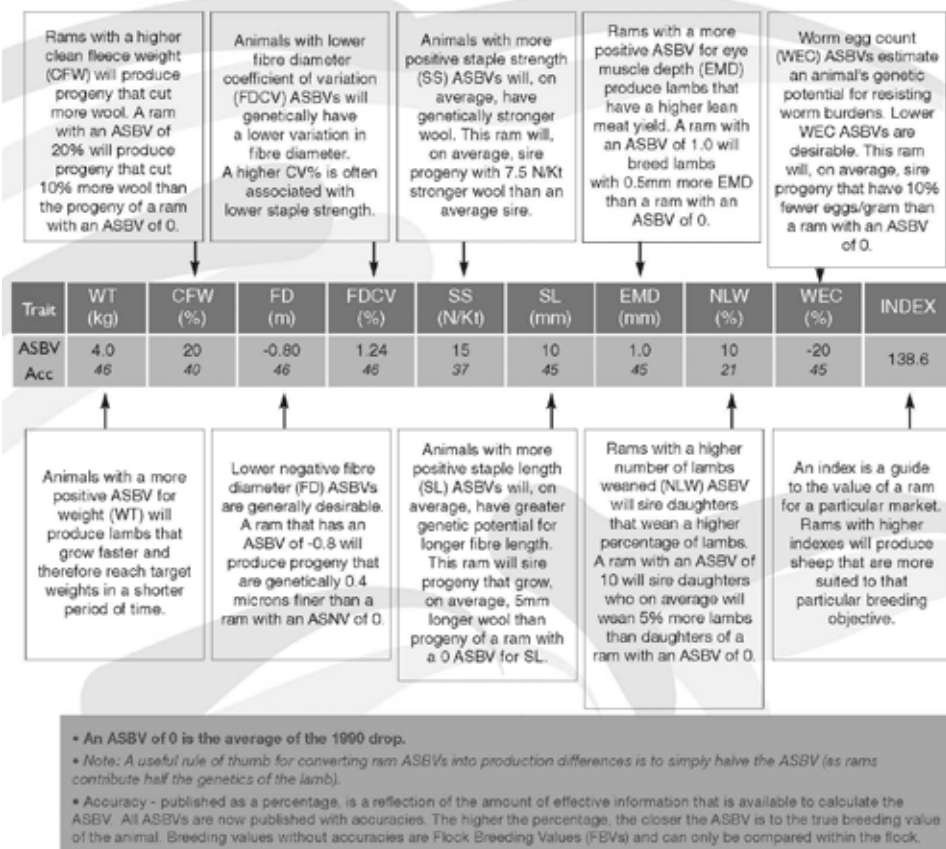
#### **TO BE ELIGIBLE** for sale, every Yalgoo ram must:

- Be free of fleece-rot, dermatitis, non-scourable colour and pigment in wool-growing areas.
- Have acceptable foot conformation.
- Have scrotal circumference of at least 28cm at sale day.
- Have firm and springy testicles of equal size and
- Free of abnormalities.
- Be accredited ovine Brucellosis free.
- Be monitored negative for ovine Johne's disease.
- Be footrot free.
- Index 170% on Yalgoo Index





## Understanding MERINOSELECT ASBVs

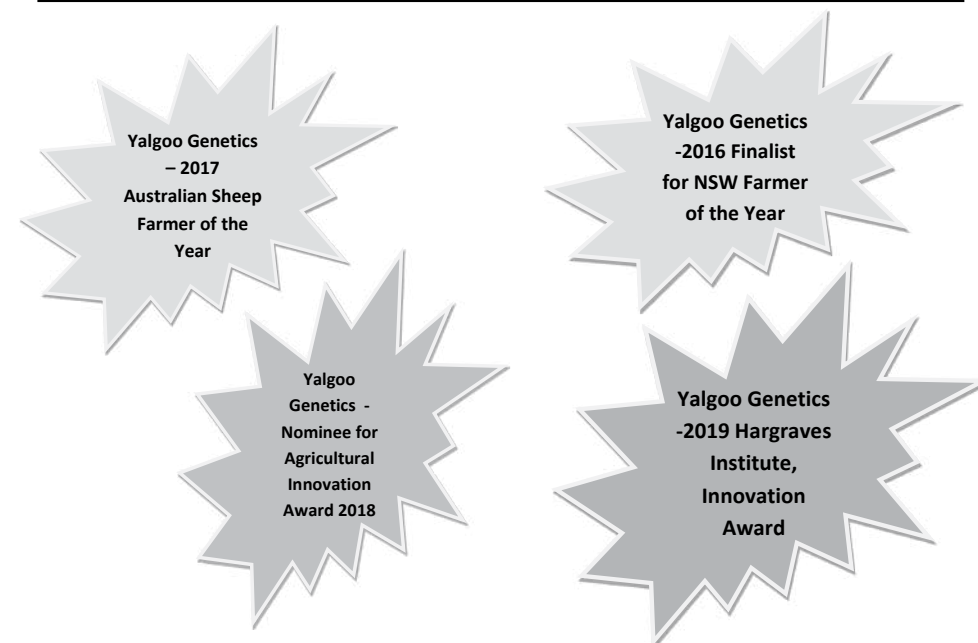


For more information contact Sheep Genetics  
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 Info@sheepgenetics.org.au www.sheepgenetics.org.au

Sheep Genetics is a joint program of Meat & Livestock Australia Limited ABN 39 081 678 364 and Australian Wool Innovation Limited ABN 12 095 165 558



## RECENT AWARDS FOR YALGOO GENETICS



## YALGOO NEWS & EVENTS FOR 2020

- Yalgoo Semen Sales - See [www.yalgoogenetics.com.au](http://www.yalgoogenetics.com.au)
- August 10, Yalgoo Bull Sale
- Lookout for Congi (TAF) surplus sheep for sale. An excellent opportunity to purchase merino ewes with a long history of objective measurement, predictability of performance and superior profitability
- If you are a Yalgoo client, please speak to Jock about advertising your future sheep sales in this catalogue OR on the Yalgoo Stock Exchange for free
- From February 3, Ashby (Ross- Tasmania) Private Merino Ram or surplus sheep sales. Contact Will Bennett: 0419104979
- 2020 MerinoLink Conference. A hugely popular and not to be missed industry event for progressive sheep producers. Held at the Orange Ex Services on the 24th and 25th of June. Go to <http://www.merinolink.com.au/> for more information

# YALGOO FLOCK 1552

## THE YALGOO STUD

was founded in 1947 on ewes descended from the original Ohio Flock which trace back to sheep imported from WA Grubb, Scone, Tasmania, in the 1880's. For the last 45 years, mainly Yalgoo Sires have been used in the Stud.

## RANKING RAMS ON THE SELECTION INDEX

The great advantage of a selection index is that it combines all the economically important traits into a single ranking. That is, where the ram stands in relation to all the rams in his drop. THE YALGOO MERINOS SELECTION INDEX is based on estimated progeny values (ASBV's) rather than the direct performance of the ram himself. Advice from geneticists is that the ASBV rank is the best estimate of an animal's genetic merit for those traits included in the index.

This is similar in many respects to the ASBV system in beef cattle breeding and takes into account the performance of the ram's close relatives including sire, dam, and half brothers and sisters. Most sheep breeders realise that sometimes rams that are ranked highly on the basis of their own individual measurements do not perform to expectations. That is they do not breed progeny as superior as they are. Although these rams are the exception they still occur and if the accuracy of selection can be improved by taking into account their likely breeding performance, then more progress can be made. Therefore the information that we supply will include an index ranking on ASBV's.

## ADDITIONAL MEASUREMENTS

In addition to the economically important traits all Yalgoo Merino's sires and sale rams are independently appraised for secondary characters. These include:

- Face cover
- Testicle tone
- Scrotal circumference
- Pigmentation
- Foot conformation
- Wool quality

Of these, we include foot conformation scores, testicle tone scores and scrotal circumference measurements in the sale catalogue.

**Foot Conformation** – For a range of reasons, we believe it is important for merino sheep to have well conformed feet. Yalgoo merinos are scored as follows:

- Score 1 Ideal conformation with no visible signs of distortion
- Score 2 Mild distortion in one or more feet. May require trimming each year pre-mating.
- Score 3 Moderate distortion. Should be trimmed pre-mating.
- Score 4 Unacceptable, culled.

**Testicle Tone** – Research has shown a 98% correlation between testicle tone and semen quality. Yalgoo rams are scored as follows:

- Score 1 Very firm and springy. Likely to have excellent semen.
- Score 2 Firm and springy. Likely to have very good semen.
- Score 3 Soft and flabby. Semen may be suspect. Semen test if the ram is to be individually mated.
- Score 4 Very soft and flabby. Unacceptable, culled.

**Scrotal Circumference** – Research has also shown that a minimum scrotal circumference is required to be mated to at least 50 ewes. This is 28cm, as measured by a scrotal tape.

All Yalgoo rams failing to measure 28cm as one year olds are culled. There is no biological advantage for rams having testicles that measure in excess of 36cm.

\* At the same time as the testicle tone is assessed and measurements taken, the testicles are palpated for signs of injury or disease with any detectable abnormality resulting in immediate culling.

\* Yalgoo is an accredited Brucellosis free stud.

## ADDITIONAL NOTES:

(S): Scurred Animal  
(P): Polled Animal  
Y: Yalgoo Sires  
CP: Centre Plus Sire  
INDEX RANK – Lots ranked by FP+ & Y-7/15

CFW% – Clean Fleece Weight percentage  
FD um (dev) – Fibre Diameter (deviation)  
CV% – Co-efficient of variation of Fibre Diameter percentage (deviation)  
BWT% – Body Weight percentage

# YALGOO FLOCK past..present..future

## PAST

First and Foremost, Yalgoo has and will always be predominately a commercial merino enterprise. We are basically commercial breeders that wanted to put as much pressure on commercially relevant traits to enhance our commercial ewe base, using all means possible. For the best part of the last 5 decades we have been concentrating on the objective and measurable traits that make wool growers money. The good news for our clients is that we haven't been distracted by intangible traits and fads that hinder genetic progress. This ensures that genetic progress is both measurable and assured.

Yalgoo has been measuring and selecting based on economically important traits for 41 years. In the first 25 years the Yalgoo flock went from a 21 micron flock to a 19 micron flock. Wool cuts stayed predominantly around the 4-5kg mark and body weights were fairly stagnant. Wool quality and structural traits were also improved. With the limiting technology and breeding tools available this was considered rapid genetic progress.

## PRESENT

In 1997 Yalgoo were amongst the first to embrace sheep breeding values. Yalgoo was a 19 micron flock cutting 5kgs of wool. In this new era of sheep breeding, breeders were able to set flock goals and benchmarks. Grant insisted that it was possible to aggressively reduce micron without sacrificing major economic traits like body size, fleece weight and fertility. Whilst ensuring wool and structural traits were improved. In the ten years that followed, the Yalgoo flock average was reduced from 19 micron to 16.3 and eventually to its current 15.8 micron. Fleece Values have gone from \$73 to \$101.20 over the same period. (\*Based on prices supplied by Elders 17/6/11: 2200 c/kg 16.3 micron wool and 1500c/kg 18.3 micron wool)

Wool cut, fertility and body weight remained constant up until 2008. Fleece weights have risen exponentially in the past three years with a renewed focus. We are now at the stage where we are throwing up 15 micron rams that are in the top 1% of the breed for fleece weight.

## FUTURE

As has always been the case, our goals are based around the commercial performance of our ewe flock. The stud is purely the vehicle in which to reach these goals. In the next ten years we believe the Yalgoo commercial ewe flock will be a 15 micron flock cutting 7kgs of wool. Wool quality and animal conformation will remain an integral part of the Yalgoo package. These are ambitious goals, however the genetic progress we have made in the last 10 years, suggests they are attainable. We invite you come along for the ride.

Yalgoo is an Accredited Brucellosis Free Flock and has a flock status of MN3 for John's disease INSPECTION prior to sale by appointment.

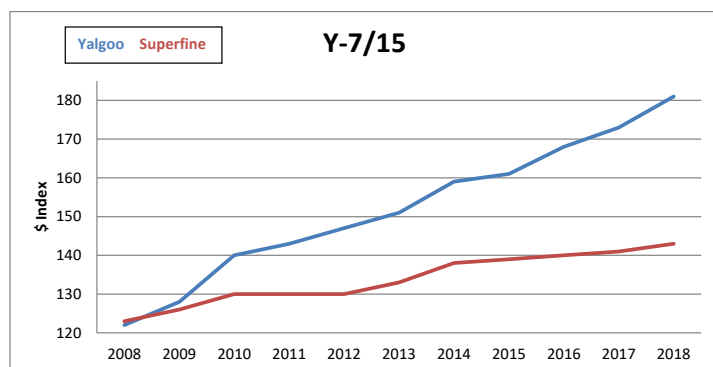
On sale day from 9am



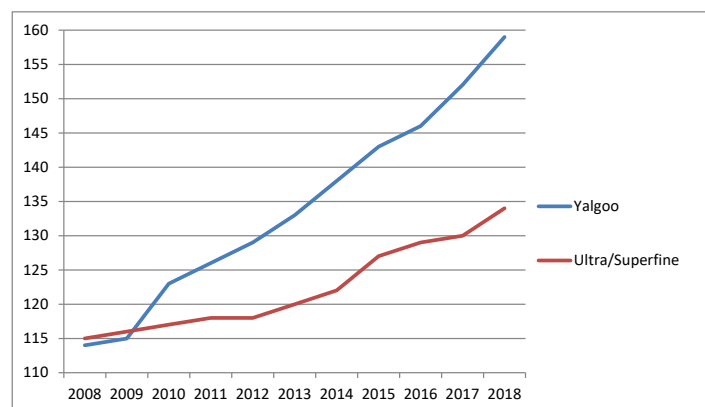
Elders Walcha ..... 02 6774 2600  
Nick Hall ..... 0427 437 203  
Tom Henry ..... 0409 659 877  
John Newsome ..... 0428 669 498  
Andy McGeoch ..... 0418 737 470

# YALGOO GENETIC TRENDS

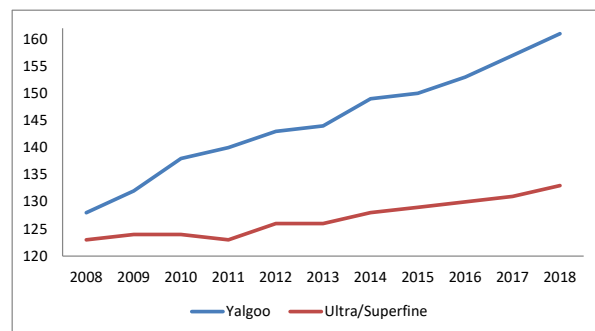
Yalgoo Index 7/15



MP+

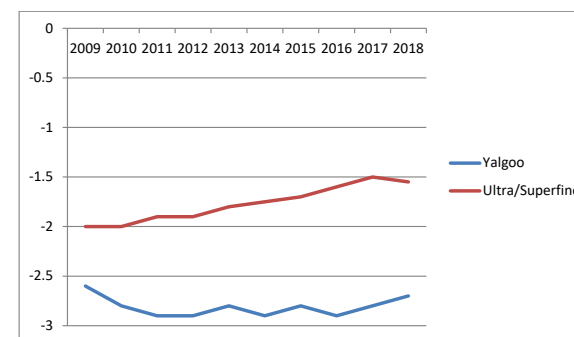


FP+

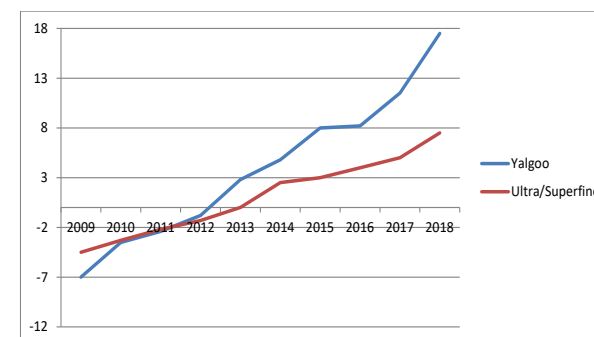


# YALGOO GENETIC TRENDS

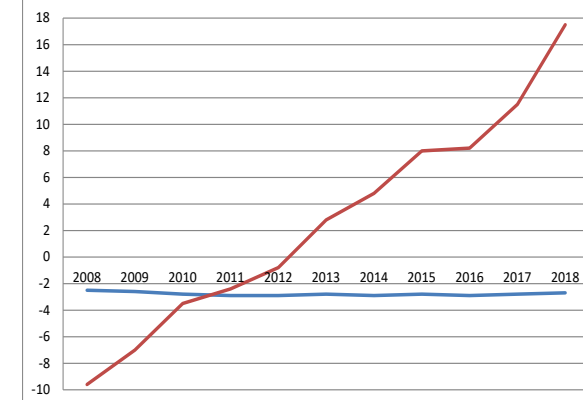
FD



CFW



Yalgoo FD VS CFW

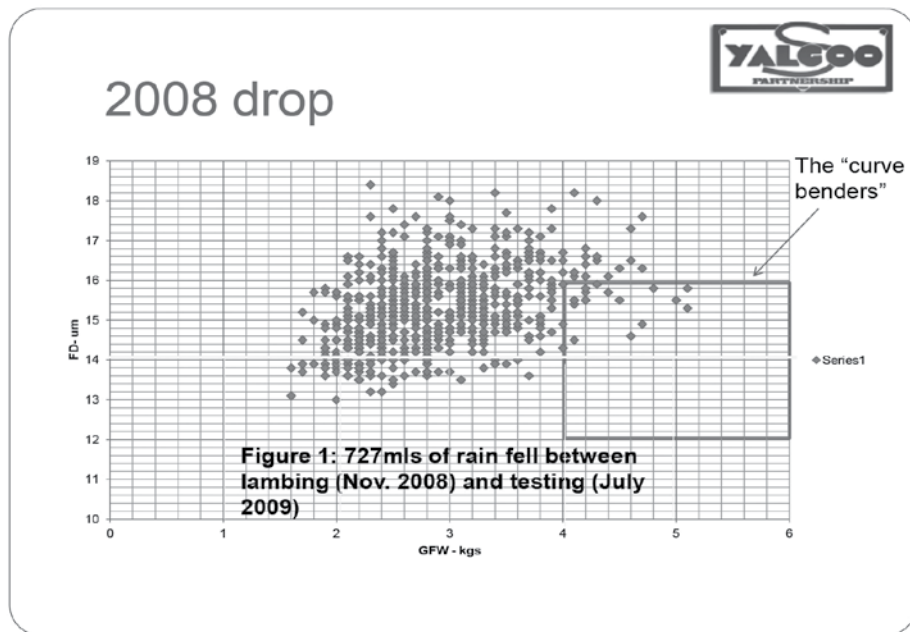


## BENDING TRAIT CORRELATIONS TO MAXIMISE PROFIT

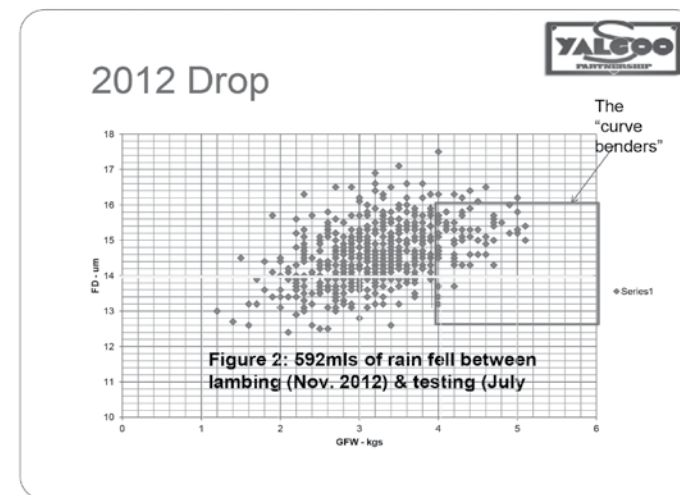
- We only have to look at other livestock industries to see how profitable this strategy can be. As with other livestock, merino production traits are correlated to each other. The desirable traits are linked to less desirable traits and traditionally selection for one trait is at the detriment of another desirable trait. Our index ensures we apply sustained pressure to the negatively correlated traits that have the greatest effect on profit. These are GFW and FD. This is the core of our genetic direction. (For more information on why these traits are the profit drivers please visit [www.yalgoogenetics.com.au](http://www.yalgoogenetics.com.au) and go to the presentation "Managing on-farm declining terms of trade, by manipulating merino genetics")
- Aforementioned, due to trait correlations the two major components of price received have been hard to capture simultaneously.

However the Yalgoo sheep flock is quickly gathering a significant population of these 'curve benders'. This is the primary reason why fleece value has risen by 5.6% per annum since 2009. If we ignore FD, we are submitting price control and therefore increasing price risk. More importantly we don't need to sacrifice FD to increase CFW. Yalgoo is exceeding industry gains for CFW & FD simultaneously, which results in a rapid increase in \$/DSE.

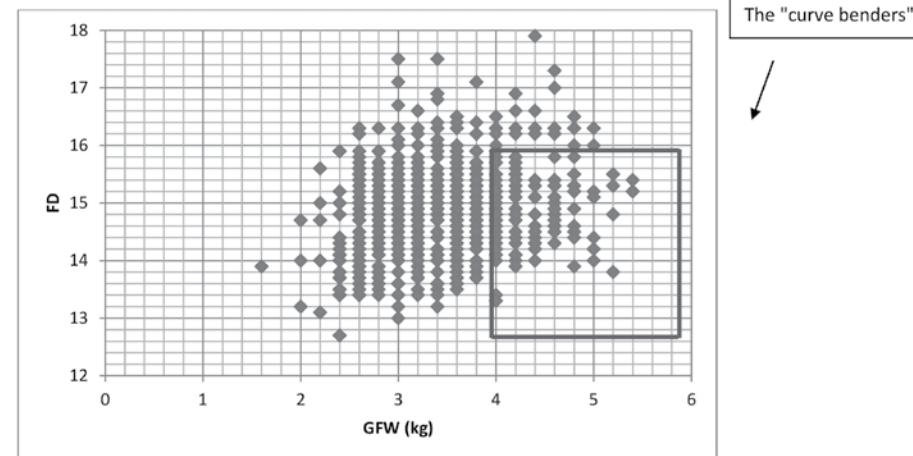
- The following graphs reflect the raw FD and GFW measurements from our stud ewes and rams weaners combined in 2008, 2012 and 2014 drops.
- Sheep populations are all 600+/- . The fleece weights are taken at 9-10 months of age with no bellies. Bellies average 400-500grams)



## BENDING TRAIT CORRELATIONS TO MAXIMISE PROFIT



### 2014 Drop



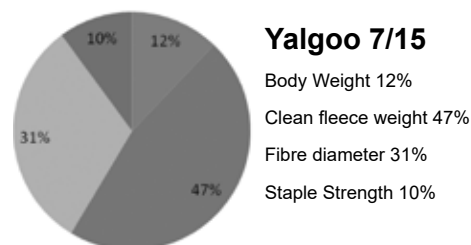
- The sheep population has moved significantly towards the right and towards the bottom of the graph from 2009 to 2015
- The mean 2008 drop weaner cut 2.9kg of 15.3 micron with a fleece value of \$44(5 year average price \$15.12/kg)
- The mean 2014 drop weaner cut 3.9kg of 14.8 micron with a fleece value of \$68 (5 year average price \$17.50/kg)
- In 4 years the average fleece value has increased by \$24/hd. Or by 5.9% per annum.
- Number of and Income from Curve benders-  
2008 drop: 18 sheep (Income \$1458)  
2012 drop: 58 sheep (Income \$4698)  
2014 drop: 121 sheep (Income \$9801)
- 2018 drop (predicted on current cumulative rate of gain):506 sheep (Income \$40986)



# WELCOME TO THE YALGOO 7/15 INDEX

**“The enduring aspect of this index is that it was solely designed for profit. It delivers more fleece value than any other index and is based on profitability per/ha not per hd. It simply removes the noise surrounding profitability”**

**WHAT:** The 7/15 index is custom designed to move our commercial flock as quickly as possible towards a flock that will cut 7kgs of 15 micron. The following chart demonstrates the weighting of the relevant traits that comprise the index.



**WHY:** We identified our major profit driving traits and have decided to increase genetic progress in these traits as rapidly as possible by building an index around them. These traits in order of importance in the medium term for our flock are:

1. Clean Fleece Weight
2. Fibre Diameter
3. Body Weight
4. Staple Strength

The default indexes that the industry are offering have some traits in them that we believed were dispensable at the behest of increasing the percentage of these major economic traits.

For example one of the indexes has curvature in it. We believe that this is an arbitrary trait that may or may not increase price of wool received. The latest research has shown that there is little difference in the processing qualities of high frequency crimping wool to low frequency crimping wool. In fact if anything the bolder wool processed better.

CV is the other trait that makes up a significant proportion of the default indexes. Due to the strong correlations with Staple Strength

we decided to leave CV out of the index. CV will also be controlled through sire selection and we will monitor the affect the index has on flock CV yearly. Overall on balance it was decided to leave CV out to gain more fleece weight and fibre reduction.

Net Lambs Weaned is the other trait that makes an appearance in the default indexes. This is basically a fertility trait that is directly extrapolated from body weight information. By incorporating body weight into our index we are directly increasing fertility.

The key message to understand is that the more traits that you apply to an index: the slower the genetic progress will be in each of these traits! This is why we have concentrated on what we believe are the major profit drivers.

## EFFECT:

Our commercial wool clip in 2012 averaged 15.8 micron. Our adult commercial ewes (BW:50kg) are cutting 4.8kg of 16 micron. Our 2009(BW:60kg) drop wethers cut 5.5kg of 15.9 micron wool. This is the base from which the Yalgoo index has been worked out from. The predicted genetic response in ten years are displayed below:

Trait	Predicted Response in Yalgoo Flock in 10yrs
YWT	1.4 kg
AWT	0.8kg
YCFW	10.5 %
ACFW	11.4%
YFD	-0.7 microns
AFD	-0.8 microns
YCV	0.15%
ACV	0.30%
YSS	1.74 newtons
ASS	0.78 newtons

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** These genetic responses are conservative because they don't incorporate any other flock management strategies you might be implementing to reach flock goals. For example you may be indexing your commercial ewe base as well as your ram breeding core. Therefore more selection pressure is being applied and genetic progress increases. Other factors that may increase genetic progress are the amount of data being collected and the flock linkage.

Incorporating the other management strategies used at Yalgoo, we have been advised by geneticists that our rate of genetic gain should be much higher than the predicted response shown above.

## FAQ's:

**Q: “Why are there no carcase or WEC traits included in the index”**

A: Once again the more traits that you apply to an index: the slower the genetic progress will be in each of these traits.

The carcase value of a merino ewe in a wool growing enterprise as a percentage of its lifetime income is only around 15%. This income is also 100% derived from body weight. No wool enterprise that I know, is being paid on a grid for the carcase characteristics of their ewes or wethers. Therefore by using the Y-7/15 index we are still increasing carcase value by increasing body weight, through its inclusion in the index and because of BW's high correlation to CFW.

To move WEC negatively enough to have a significant economic bearing in terms of reduced drenching costs, the index would have to be strongly weighted towards WEC. This reduces the amount of genetic pressure we can put on the key profit driving traits. WEC is being controlled through sire selection and ensuring only proven resistant rams are infused into the flock.

**Q: “What will happen to my flock if it doesn't mirror Yalgoo's starting base flock?”**

A: If your flock is considerably stronger and you start selecting Yalgoo rams on the Y-7/15 index you will still experience a rapid reduction in micron. This is because our base micron is still extremely low and the rams being sold will still be genetically fine.

Also the fact that this index is heavily based on fibre diameter reduction means that the high indexing rams are generally the finer sheep. They will just have higher GFW. Simply speaking if you select Yalgoo rams on the Y-7/15 index your flock will end up mirroring our current flock. When it reaches that level, it will then head towards the 7-15 goal.

**Q: “Why is 15 micron used as a flock goal?”**

A: We have used 15 micron as a flock goal for a few reasons.

1. Research shows that 15 micron fabric has ideal processing qualities. Therefore comparative premiums should logically be most pronounced at around 15 micron. A 15 micron flock average, means that we will still have large quantities of sub 14 micron wool to capture any niche premiums.
2. By only having to decrease flock micron by 0.8 we can put more emphasis on increasing fleece weight.

## FIBRE PRODUCTION PLUS INDEX FP+

Although the Y 7/15 index is now driving genetic progress within the Yalgoo flock, we have included the Fibre Plus Index so you can compare the genetic merit of our sale rams against the industry as a whole.

You may have noticed that SGA also publish a Fibre Production (FP) index. The only difference is that the FP+ takes more traits into account. So the producers that are measuring a greater variety of traits are having their sheep ranked on the FP+ index as well as the FP index.

WHAT: "The Fibre Production (FP & FP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce merinos for a wool production operation."

WHO: "The index is aimed at those producers whose majority of sheep income come from their wool clip. It is for self-replacing merino flocks who keep their wethers as part of their wool producing flock."

EFFECT: The following table demonstrates the genetic gain a producer would gain by using the FP+ index for 10 years.

Trait	Likely Response	Contribution to economic gain (%)
Fleece weight	+2.8%	11%
Fibre diameter	-1.3 microns	47%
Body weight	+1.1kg	1%
CV of FD	-0.9%	3%
Staple strength	+4.6 N.ktex	29%
Worm egg count	-12%	2%
Curvature	+1.8 Deg/mm	1%
Number of lambs weaned	+3%	6%

## NOTES

Lot No.	Tag No	Horn	Sire	FP+	MP+	Y-7/15	CFW%	FD um (dev)
1	231	S	Y1655	167	172	192	23.0	-2.8
2	50	P	CP204	161	159	189	26.0	-2.0
3	24	P	CP204	154	151	182	20.0	-2.0
4	253	S	CP379	170	176	185	21.0	-1.7
5	533	S	Y1670	165	166	195	23.0	-2.5
6	479	P	Y1670	162	159	192	22.0	-2.9
7	315	P	Y481	157	167	180	26.0	-1.9
8	265	S	CP379	157	169	177	21.0	-2.0
9	218	P	Y1655	165	163	189	22.0	-2.9
10	258	S	CP379	172	180	189	18.0	-2.4
11	4	P	CP204	151	151	177	23.0	-1.9
12	331	S	Y481	165	173	189	28.0	-2.3
13	61	H	CPWA	163	172	189	24.0	-2.4
14	268	P	CP379	166	180	188	24.0	-1.9
15	543	S	Y1670	163	163	191	21.0	-2.5
16	420	H	Y16441	163	165	183	19.0	-2.8
17	455	P	Y16441	163	162	180	17.0	-2.9
18	472	P	Y1670	166	160	191	23.0	-2.6
19	87	S	CPWA	162	172	188	27.0	-2.0
20	137	S	Y1682	160	167	185	20.0	-2.6
21	269	H	CP379	166	172	182	18.0	-2.2
22	WITH		DRAWN					
23	348	P	Y1557	164	163	183	21.0	-3.7
24	35	S	CP204	157	156	183	23.0	-1.8
25	475	P	Y1670	158	163	185	26.0	-1.7

CV% (dev)	YWT	SS (Nktex)	YEMD	YFAT	Y wec.	Purchaser	\$
-0.9	6.4	-1.3	1.1	0.9	-53		
-2.2	2.6	2.5	0.3	0.3	-41		
-1.9	6.0	1.6	0.3	0.4	-41		
-2.8	5.6	5.3	0.8	1.1	-43		
-2.6	4.1	2.9	0.9	-0.1	-4		
-0.8	5.1	-2.4	0.5	-0.3	-50		
-1.1	4.9	1.5	0.3	0.0	-17		
-0.3	6.2	-0.8	0.2	0.6	-9		
-1.5	3.2	0.9	0.8	0.6	-39		
-2.6	5.0	4.7	0.1	0.6	2		
-1.6	3.6	1.9	0.6	0.3	-26		
-0.3	2.6	-0.8	-0.3	-0.4	-30		
-0.8	5.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0		
-2.6	5.5	4.0	0.2	0.9	36		
-1.6	3.5	3.0	0.8	0.0	-13		
-0.9	4.0	-0.7	0	-0.3	-32		
-0.9	0.9	0.0	-0.1	-0.4	-23		
-0.7	1.9	0.7	0.2	-0.2	-11		
-0.6	4.8	0.3	0.4	0.1	0		
-2.2	9.4	-0.3	0.9	1.0	-15		
-2.4	4.8	3.2	0.1	0.8	-9		
0.6	-0.7	-4.2	-0.5	-0.6	-24		
-3.1	3.5	4.9	0.8	0.4	-24		
-1.3	3.4	2.2	0.1	-0.4	-6		

Top 5%

Top 20%

Lot No.	Tag No	Horn	Sire	FP+	MP+	Y-7/15	CFW%	FD um (dev)
26	233	P	Y1655	165	161	186	21.0	-2.8
27	493	P	Y1670	164	168	193	31.0	-2.0
28	305	P	Y16481	164	163	184	21.0	-3.0
29	33	S	CP204	156	156	182	21.0	-1.9
30	34	S	CP204	152	153	179	20.0	-1.7
31	522	P	Y1670	166	169	188	19.0	-2.7
32	407	S	Y1557	168	164	183	13.0	-4.5
33	275	H	CP379	164	178	182	26.0	-1.5
34	524	S	Y1670	163	164	192	23.0	-2.8
35	96	S	CP WA	159	168	186	23.0	-2.3
36	282	H	Y16481	164	172	189	25.0	-2.7
37	511	P	Y1670	166	166	192	22.0	-3.2
38	432	H	Y16441	158	163	184	20.0	-2.5
39	266	H	CP379	158	169	176	18.0	-1.7
40	262	P	CP379	166	176	192	16.0	-2.4
41	255	S	CP379	166	176	177	11.0	-2.4
42	309	H	Y16481	158	157	179	13.0	-3.1
43	422	H	Y16441	162	162	182	15.0	-3.1
44	295	H	Y16481	165	165	186	18.0	-2.9
45	378	S	Y1557	167	159	182	16.0	-3.8
46	425	H	Y16441	165	161	186	11.0	-3.2
47	38	P	CP204	157	152	181	19.0	-2.1
48	527	S	Y1670	162	160	190	17.0	-2.5
49	151	H	Y1682	160	156	181	11.4	-3.3
50	182	H	Y1682	161	157	187	13.0	-3.0

CV% (dev)	YWT	SS (Nktex)	YEMD	YFAT	Y wec.	Purchaser	\$
-2.0	2.0	2.0	0.7	0.5	-51		
-1.2	0.7	1.2	0.5	-0.5	-15		
0.1	0.1	-2.3	-0.3	-0.4	-23		
-2.6	6.4	2.4	0.7	0.5	-38		
-2.6	6.4	2.5	0.8	0.6	-30		
-2.4	6.6	1.9	0.7	0.5	-16		
-0.1	1.3	-3.6	-0.1	-0.4	-32		
-1.9	4.4	3.7	0.2	0.6	-5		
-1.3	0.8	2.8	0.3	-0.3	5		
-0.6	6.3	-0.5	0.1	-0.4	5		
-0.7	2.8	0.3	0	-0.3	11		
-0.5	1.8	-0.5	0.5	-0.3	-26		
-1.2	2.3	1.8	-0.1	-0.3	34		
-2.4	6.3	4.0	0.8	1.0	16		
-2.4	7.2	2.6	0.8	1.1	51		
-3.2	8.0	4.6	0.6	1.2	-42		
-0.5	4.6	-2.0	0.1	-0.2	-26		
-1.0	3.9	-0.5	0.2	-0.2	-17		
-1.7	3.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	-12		
0.5	-2.5	-3.4	-0.4	-0.4	-44		
-2.1	3.8	2.0	0.3	-0.1	-10		
-3.3	2.4	3.3	0.9	0.5	-23		
-1.9	4.5	2.8	0.3	0.0	-4		
-3.1	4.9	3.0	1.1	0.4	-12		
-2.3	6.6	1.8	1.3	0.3	-34		

Top 5%

Top 20%



Lot No.	Tag No	Horn	Sire	FP+	MP+	Y-7/15	CFW%	FD um (dev)
51	242	H	CP379	159	166	174	14.0	-1.7
52	127	H	Y1682	154	150	181	15.0	-2.7
53	339	P	Y1557	164	158	176	14.0	-3.0
54	7	P	CP204	154	149	173	20.0	-2.1
55	184	S	Y1682	159	158	181	22.0	-2.4
56	426	H	Y16441	166	162	185	14.0	-3.4
57	433	H	Y16441	160	160	178	14.0	-3.8
58	44	S	CP204	160	152	183	17.0	-2.5
59	86	P	CPWA	160	172	183	28.0	-1.6
60	95	P	CP445	161	160	187	14.0	-2.7
61	191	P	Y1655	161	156	180	16.0	-3.5
62	69	S	CP445	163	158	180	10.0	-2.8
63	58	S	CPWA	160	162	177	20.0	-2.8
64	317	S	Y16481	162	157	176	12.0	-2.8
65	435	P	Y16441	162	162	184	17.0	-2.6
66	444	H	Y16441	160	159	178	14.0	-2.8
67	324	P	Y16481	156	160	185	20.0	-2.3
68	523	S	Y1670	167	162	188	19.0	-2.6
69	194	S	Y1655	157	152	180	15.0	-2.9
70	234	P	Y1655	162	160	182	19.0	-2.6
71	102	H	CP445	163	160	186	14.0	-2.5
72	207	S	Y1655	163	160	185	19.0	-3.0
73	515	P	Y1670	153	154	177	19.0	-2.0
74	413	H	Y16441	168	168	188	21.0	-3.2
75	62	H	Y1682	157	154	183	15.0	-2.7

CV% (dev)	YWT	SS (Nktex)	YEMD	YFAT	Y wec.	Purchaser	\$
-3.3	7.6	5.2	0.9	1.1	-6		
-1.5	5.4	-0.3	0.7	0.4	-24		
-1.7	1.2	1.1	0.2	-0.2	-54		
-2.3	-0.4	3.6	0.6	0.4	-33		
-1.3	2.9	0.8	0.7	0.1	-44		
-1.3	0.9	-0.5	-0.3	-0.2	7		
-0.4	1.0	-2.0	-0.1	-0.4	18		
-2.8	2.0	3.2	0.9	0.5	-22		
-0.9	2.8	2.1	-0.3	-0.3	9		
-2.4	6.4	1.8	0.4	0.2	-14		
-1.2	3.5	-0.7	1.1	0.6	-46		
-3.4	3.9	4.7	0.2	-0.1	-19		
-0.4	-0.3	-1.1	-0.4	-0.6	3		
-1.7	3.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-43		
-1.9	1.9	3.3	-0.3	-0.4	5		
-1.3	2.6	1.6	0	-0.2	-8		
-1.2	3.2	1.8	-0.1	-0.3	14		
-2.4	1.5	4.4	0.6	-0.1	-33		
-1.2	4.4	-0.3	1.4	0.9	-38		
-2.4	3.9	2.5	1	0.7	-40		
-2.2	6.4	1.7	0.4	0.2	-36		
-0.8	4.5	-1.5	0.7	0.5	-55		
-0.8	4.2	0.9	0.9	-0.3	-23		
-0.8	1.1	-0.8	-0.3	-0.5	-16		
-2.2	5.7	1.2	1.1	0.4	-23		

Top 5%

Top 20%

Lot No.	Tag No	Horn	Sire	FP+	MP+	Y-7/15	CFW%	FD um (dev)
76	129	P	Y1682	162	154	181	11.0	-3.2
77	97	H	CPWA	155	163	180	20.0	-1.9
78	43	S	CP204	152	149	176	23.0	-1.8
79	417	H	Y16441	153	161	177	18.0	-2.8
80	17376	P	CP204	167	177	202	36.0	-1.9

Top 5%

Top 20%

CV% (dev)	YWT	SS (Nktex)	YEMD	YFAT	Y wec.	Purchaser	\$
-2.4	2.9	1.7	0.7	0.2	-35		
-1.4	7.1	1.4	0.4	0.0	1		
-1.3	1.0	1.6	0.6	0.4	-25		
-0.4	5.4	-1.3	0.4	-0.1	15		
-1.1	5.9	0.9	1.8	0.7	-22		

Top 5%

Top 20%

## STRUCTURAL DATA 2020

LOT	FACE	PIGMENT	FEET	TONE	SCROTAL SIZE (CM)
1	1	1	2	1	32.5
2	1	1	2	1	32.5
3	1	1	1	1	35.5
4	1	1	1	1	32
5	2	1	2	1	29
6	2	1	2	1	34
7	1	1	3	1	35
8	1	1	1	1	34
9	1	1	2	1	29
10	1	1	2	1	35
11	1	1	1	1	34
12	1	1	3	1	30
13	1	1	1	1	34
14	2	1	1	1	34.5
15	1	1	1	1	29
16	1	1	2	1	31
17	1	1	2	1	28.5
18	1	1	1	1	31
19	1	1	1	1	34
20	1	1	2	1	32
21	1	1	1	1	34.5
22	WITH		DRAWN		
23	1	1	1	3	28
24	1	1	2	1	35
25	2	1	2	1	32
26	1	1	2	1	31
27	1	1	1	1	28
28	1	1	1	1	29
29	1	1	1	1	35.5
30	1	1	2	1	34
31	2	1	2	1	28.5
32	1	1	3	1	31
33	1	1	2	1	31.5
34	2	1	3	1	30
35	1	1	1	1	33.5
36	1	1	1	1	32
37	1	1	2	1	30
38	1	1	1	1	31
39	1	1	1	1	34.5
40	1	1	1	1	31.5

## STRUCTURAL DATA 2020

LOT	FACE	PIGMENT	FEET	TONE	SCROTAL SIZE (CM)
41	1	1	1	1	34.5
42	1	1	1	1	32.5
43	1	1	3	1	31
44	1	1	1	1	31
45	1	1	1	1	28.5
46	1	1	1	1	34.5
47	2	1	1	1	28
48	1	1	2	1	34
49	1	1	1	1	31
50	1	1	1	1	33.5
51	1	1	1	1	37
52	1	1	1	1	31.5
53	1	1	1	1	29
54	1	1	3	1	31.5
55	1	1	1	1	28
56	1	1	2	1	29
57	1	1	1	1	31.5
58	1	1	2	1	33
59	1	1	1	1	30
60	1	2	2	1	30
61	1	1	1	1	31
62	1	1	3	1	34
63	1	1	1	1	33
64	1	1	1	1	32
65	1	1	1	1	31
66	1	1	1	1	30
67	1	1	1	1	31
68	1	1	1	1	29.5
69	2	1	1	1	30
70	1	1	2	1	29
71	2	1	2	1	31.5
72	1	1	1	1	32
73	1	1	1	1	29.5
74	1	1	2	1	28
75	2	1	1	1	30.5
76	1	1	1	1	28
77	1	1	1	1	34
78	2	1	1	1	29
79	1	1	2	1	34
80	1	1	1	1	37.5 (taken @ 1y0)

## TRIAL DATA

### CONSOLIDATED GLEN INNES WETHER TRIAL DATA 2016, 2017, 2018 FROM 39 TEAMS

2016 Group Average (\$/hd)	2016 Yalgoo Blood Average (\$/hd)	2017 Group Average (\$/hd)	2017 Yalgoo Blood Average (\$/hd)	2018 Group Average (\$/ hd)	2018 Yalgoo blood Average (\$/hd)
41.71	47.48	59.78	68.58	69.66	76.80

*"Thankyou and congratulations to our valued clients  
for testing Yalgoo genetics against the industry"*

## ACCOMMODATION

WALCHA MOTEL 6777 2599  
NEW ENGLAND HOTEL MOTEL 6777 2532

## BUYERS INSTRUCTION SLIP

### YALGOO RAM SALE Saturday 1st February 2020

No verbal instructions will be accepted

Name .....

Address .....

..... Postcode .....

Phone ..... Fax.....

Email .....@ .....

#### Please Account Direct or:

To my Agent who is .....

.....

Lots purchased .....

.....

.....

.....

Transport arrangements .....

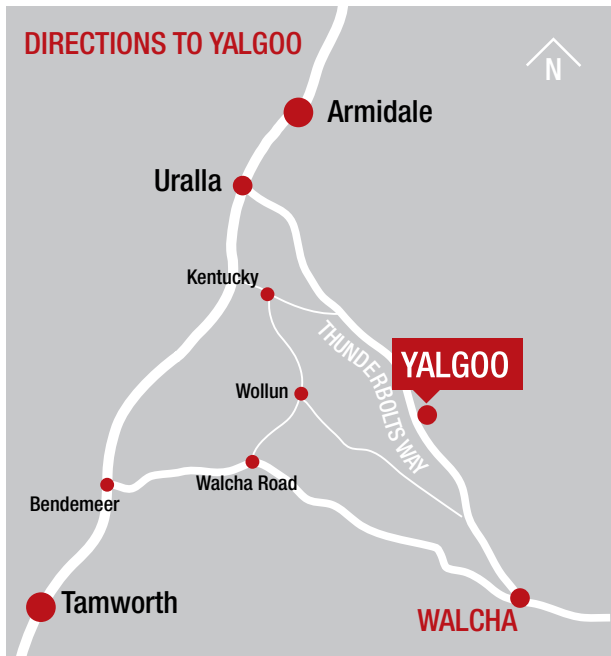
.....

Insurance: ☐ 12 months ☐ 6 months ☐ 3 months

Signature of Buyer .....

**Special note to Buyers:** In the interest of buyers, and to prevent the occurrence of mistakes, all instructions concerning the delivery of stock must be given in writing and signed by the buyer or their representative.





4% commission to outside agents



**Yalgoo Partnership - Jock Nivison**

Phone: 0497 762 977

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