



\$44,000 TOP IN 2016

George Falkiner and Andy McLean were active bidders at AFA's 2016 Ram Auction, picking up 3 Poll Boonoke rams for the Haddon Rig Poll Stud at Warren. Their acquisitions included the sale's top priced ram, \$44,000, which also proved to be the top price paid for a NSW Stud Merino ram in 2016.

A genotyped 'PP' ram, the \$44,000 Poll Boonoke 150338 was a stand out as a well balanced ram with sought after wool characteristics. In the August 2016 MerinoSelect Analysis PB150338 was a trait leader for both the Merino Production Plus and Dual Purpose Plus indexes. Haddon Rig retained full semen rights for PB150338. The other Haddon Rig Poll Stud purchases were PB150274 for \$10,000 and PB150295 for \$8,000.



Poll Boonoke 150338
FD 20.1 SD 2.7 CV 13.4 CF 99.8
Photographed with Poll Boonoke 150338 are Colin Bell (Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Stud Principal) and George Falkiner (Haddon Rig Stud Principal)

The overall result for our 2016 auction was 193 rams sold of the 200 offered for a sale average price of \$3,511. The sale average can be further broken down to:

- 12 Wanganella shedded March shorn rams averaged \$8,583;
- 81 Wanganella paddock rams averaged \$2,364;
- 17 Poll Boonoke shedded March shorn rams averaged \$8,588; and
- 83 Poll Boonoke paddock rams averaged \$2,857.

The top priced Wanganella ram for 2016 was \$22,000, which was a joint effort by two South Australian Merino Studs. Ian & Fiona Koch's Bunyara Stud at Moculta and Garry & Joe Murdoch's North Cowie Stud at Warooka went to \$22,000 to ensure they could take Wanganella 151992 home. Garry & Joe also took a liking to Lot 3, paying \$8,000 for Wanganella 151259. Return buyer Rodger Mathews from Corowa took home two sires, spending \$15,000 on Wanganella 150812 for his Borambil Merino Stud and \$20,000 on Poll Boonoke 150314 for the Borambil Poll Merino Stud. A big buyer on the day was Rodney Kent's Kurrjong Stud at Delungra, purchasing Wanganella 151002 for \$16,000, Poll Boonoke 150129 for \$6,000 and Poll Boonoke 150400 for \$4,000.

Ken & Alex Karsten returned to purchase another Wanganella sire for their Kiawarra Stud at Weethalle, paying \$12,000 for Wanganella 150597, while Greg Andrews from the Hamilton Run Poll Stud at Jamestown, SA went to \$15,000 to secure Poll Boonoke 150763. We were delighted to supply Merino genetics to 15 breeders new to the AFA business on sale day, and thank new and returning Bidders for their support in 2016.



Kurrjong Park Stud purchased Wanganella 151002 for \$16,000. Kurrjong Park also purchased PB150129 for \$6,000 and PB150400 for \$4,000.

Pictured are John Croake (AWN), Jade Lane (Kurrjong Park Overseer), Rodney & Ron Kent (Kurrjong Park Principals) and Angus Munro.



Poll Boonoke 150314 & Wanganella 150812 purchased by Borambil Park Stud for \$20,000 and \$15,000.

Pictured are Rodger Mathews (Borambil Park Stud Principal) with PB150314 and Angus Munro holding W150812.



Poll Boonoke 150763 purchased for \$15,000 by Hamilton Run Poll Stud.

Pictured with PB150763 are Greg Andrews (Hamilton Run Stud Principal) and Angus Munro.



Wanganella 150597 purchased by the Kiawarra Merino Stud for \$12,000.

Pictured with W150597 are Ken Karsten (Kiawarra Stud Principal), Tim McMeekin (Elders), Alex Karsten (Kiawarra) and Angus Munro.

Ram sale photos by Annabel Lugsdin, Bel's Rural Photography



Top priced Wanganella Ram W151992 purchased in conjunction by Bunyara Merino Stud, Moculta and North Cowie Merino Stud, Warooka for \$22,000.

Pictured holding W151992 is Angus Munro while Garry & Joe Murdoch (North Cowie Stud Principals) hold their other Wanganella ram purchase W151259. Absent are Ian & Fiona Koch, Bunyara Stud.

CHAMPION DUAL PURPOSE MERINO POLL BOONOKE 150026



The AFA Stud Team were jubilant when PB150026 became their first Champion March Shorn Australian Merino All Purpose Ram at the July 2016 Australian Sheep & Wool Show in Bendigo, having previously shown individual class winners and the Reserve Champion. Having another Poll Boonoke and Wanganella ram in the top 12 of this strongly contested section, was an encouraging reflection of the Stud's breeding direction.

The dual purpose quality of PB150026 was further emphasised at the September 2016 Royal Adelaide Show, when he was judged the Overall Winner of the Meat and Fleece Class.

Sired by PB130028, the 2014 Elders Riverina Ram of the Year, PB150026 compared positively against other contenders at industry events in 2016. He started out by winning the NSW Champion Hogget Ram at the Hay Sheep Show. At Bendigo, in addition to his All Purpose title, he was judged to be the Grand Champion Medium Wool Ram and the Junior Champion Medium Wool Ram. Repeating the achievement of his sire, PB150026 was the Elders Riverina Ram of the Year for 2016. Then at the 2016 Merino National Sheep Show at Dubbo he was the Landmark/Bayer National March Shorn Ram, the NSW Junior Ram March Shorn and the Champion Medium Wool Poll Ram March Shorn. His additional Royal Adelaide Show ribbons included Reserve Champion March Shorn Poll Merino Ram and Reserve Champion Medium Wool March Shorn Poll Merino Ram.

With 2016 wool tests of FD 18.9, SD 2.8, CV 14.8 and CF 99.9, PB150026 weighed 124.0 kg in August 2016 when he had an eye muscle diameter of 44 mm and a fat depth of 7.0 mm. In the 22 June 2017 MerinoSelect analysis, PB150026 is a trait leader for yearling and adult weight and yearling clean fleece weight. In the same analysis he is a trait leader for the six indexes; Fibre Production/Plus, Merino Production/Plus and Dual Purpose/Plus.

The Poll Boonoke stud lambs sired by PB150026 (pictured below) have just been marked with 133% lambs to ewes joined. They are an even line of lambs that have bred true to type showing good length of body and soft skin with pure, strong heads. Having sold in excess of 1,000 semen doses to the industry, the sire potential of PB150026 is being well tested and we look forward to evaluating his industry wide results in 2018.



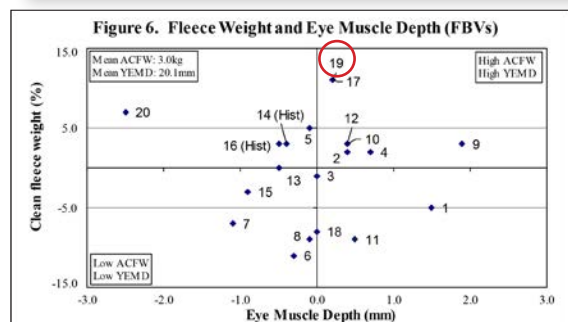
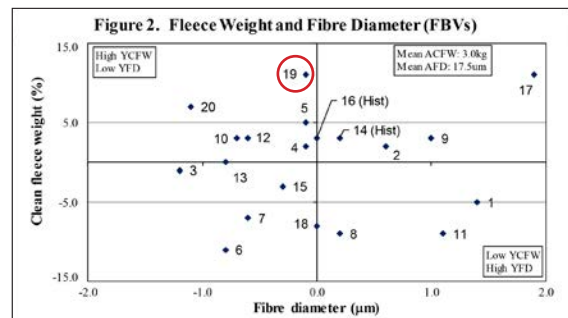
CONTINUING EVALUATION

We have a very experienced Team managing the breeding direction of our Studs. We also have the opportunity to evaluate the direction of our studs through the performance of our own substantial commercial flocks, where profitability is the key driver for the Company. Subjecting our leading rams to industry assessment in the showing has also been a useful indicator of how we compare against the best on offer from other Breeders.

In recent years the collection and submission of data to MerinoSelect means that Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) are available to our clients to assist with their ram selections if required. Our 2016 drop rams are our fourth drop for which data has been collected so the accuracy of the ASBV information generated by MerinoSelect is improving in line with the quantity of data building in the system.

To continue our comparative work we have boosted our participation in the Merino Lifetime Productivity Project. We included Wanganella 100019 in the 2014 drop Elders Balmoral Sire Evaluation Trial, which proved to be a useful assessment and source of information. So now we have PB20020 in the 2016 drop MerinoLink Temora Lifetime Ewe Productivity project, PB150026 in the 2017 drop South Australia Merino Sire Evaluation and W130816 in the 2017 drop Trangie Merino Lifetime Productivity project. We look forward to reviewing the 2016 and 2017 data as it becomes available and using it where applicable to refine our breeding program to deliver industry relevant Merinos.

*Information sample from Elders Balmoral 2014 Drop
Adult Assessment Within-Site Result Report May 2016
(Wanganella 100019 identified as 19 in sample)*



RAM PREVIEW 2016 DROP SALE RAMS

We warmly invite you to visit Boonoke on **Thursday 17 August** for a preview of a selection of 2016 drop potential stud sires, auction rams and flock grade rams.

This is an informal opportunity to inspect our rams and consult with the Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Stud Management Team. The rams will be penned **between 11 am and 3 pm**.

Please join us for lunch at 12.30 pm. Phil Graham, a Technical Specialist in Livestock Systems with a distinguished 30 year career with the NSW DPI, will be our post lunch guest speaker discussing Gross Margins of Merino based enterprises.

For catering purposes, please advise the Stud Team or Robyn (rsmith@austfood.com.au or 03 5884 6604) of your attendance.

CONSISTENT PERFORMANCE

His great grand sire was a National March Shorn Ram at Dubbo. His grand sire was an Elders Riverina Ram of the Year. His sire was the Champion Strong Wool March Shorn Ram at Dubbo. Now Wanganella 160801 has led the way for our 2016 drop March Shorn Shedded Rams at their first comparative opportunity for 2017 by winning the NSW Champion Hogget Ram title at the recent Hay Sheep Show in June.

Testing at FD 21.2, SD 3.1, CV 14.6 & CF 99.4; W160801 weighed 103.5 kg going into the competition, which had 36 entries in the line up for the Australian Hogget Ram, 19 being NSW Stud rams. In the MerinoSelect 22 June 2017 analysis, W160801 was a trait leader for YCFW, ranked in the top 1% at 30.9, and the DP Plus and MP Plus Indexes.

This success follows the NSW Hogget Ram title that PB150026 won last year with PB140948 and PB130037 winning the Riverina Wool Australian Hogget Ram title in the prior two years.



Great Grand Sire W100019



Grand Sire W120001



Sire W140271

Photos by Wayne Jenkins



Wanganella 160801 with Angus Munro, Mark Bazeley (Riverina Wool) & Justin Campbell

(Photo courtesy of The Land)

RAM SELLING IN 2017

Auctioning... 90 Wanganella and 110 Poll Boonoke 2016 drop rams on Wednesday 13 September.

Get in early... the on-property ram auction will start at 12.30 pm this year and not 1.00 pm. You might also like to get a head start on your Poll Boonoke ram order at the Hamilton Sheepvention Auction in August (see back page).

Penned from 9.30 am... auction rams will be ready for your inspection at the Boonoke Ramshed. ASBVs will be provided and the ram catalogue will be available online at www.austfood.com.au in September.

Pre auction day inspections... by appointment with Angus Munro, at the Ram Preview on Thursday 17 August or at industry events during August and September.

If you can't be at the auction... this year's sale will be interfaced with AuctionsPlus, participants will be able to login and bid on the sale via their smart phone or tablet onsite

or remotely. Buyers must ensure that they are registered with AuctionsPlus prior to the sale, you can register at auctionsplus.com.au. Any further enquires please contact AuctionsPlus on 02 9262 4222 or info@auctionsplus.com.au



Agents in conjunction... for the auction will be Elders and Landmark, Deniliquin, with Elders to settle the auction. A 2% rebate is available to outside agents introducing potential buyers by 12 August 2017 and settling within 7 days. Introductions can be advised to the Deniliquin branch offices of Elders and Landmark or the Boonoke Office. Rams are auctioned at prices exclusive of GST, with GST added to the invoice.

Top up rams... available to auction buyers unable to secure their total ram requirement during the auction. A limited number of \$1,500 + GST rams will be available at the Ramshed after the auction to finalise orders, as will a selection of \$900 + GST flock grade rams at the Boonoke Woolshed.

Shedded rams... need to transition out of the ramshed routine when purchased at auction. Our Stud Team are happy to assist with advice on this process if you require assistance.

Flock Grade Rams... available for private selection by appointment from Thursday 14 September 2017. Grades are \$900 + GST and \$650 + GST. Contact Angus Munro or the Boonoke Office with your requirements and we will confirm a selection appointment with you.

Getting your rams home... while we highly recommend that you take your rams home after the auction or a private selection, we continue to offer half the freight cost if you require us to arrange the delivery of your rams. Please note that these rams will be delivered off shears.

AFA STUD CONTACT DETAILS

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HAMILTON SHEEPVENTION RAM AUCTION

Poll Boonoke will again be offering a pen of 5 sale rams at the Hamilton Sheepvention Auction on Tuesday 8 August 2017. The Sale Team will be on display at the 2017 Australian Sheep & Wool Show or contact Angus Munro for a pre auction inspection.



PB160249
x PB140108
FD 17.6 SD 2.4
CV 13.6 CF 100.0



PB160126
x PB120020
FD 18.6 SD 2.6
CV14.0 CF 99.9



PB160445
x PB140948
FD 17.4 SD 2.5
CV 14.4 CF 99.7



PB161080
x PB220 Syn
FD 18.2 SD 2.5
CV 13.7 CF 99.9



PB161716
x PB Gen
FD 19.0 SD 2.5
CV 13.2 CF 99.7

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Colleen, Fred & Louise Donnelly, Donnelly Pastoral Co, Condobolin, NSW on being awarded the John Coy Memorial Award for Achievement with their flock's entry into this year's Don Brown Memorial Ewe Competition. Classed by Chris Bowman, the Donnellys have been purchasing Wanganella and Poll Boonoke rams since 2013. (right: Fred Donnelly)



Peter, Ann & Craig Sanderson, 'Westbourne', Tambo, Qld

on their success at the highly regarded Tambo Stock Show in April. A Westbourne team of 5 wethers in the Open Section recorded \$450.41 for total wool value (average \$90.08 per head) and total carcass value of \$549. The Sanderson's team had an average fleece weight of 8.5 kg testing 21.04 micron and 75.8% yield and won the highest valued fleece in the Open Section. The Sanderson Family transitioned to Wanganella rams after the Uardry Stud was dispersed in 2012 and Chris Bowman has classed the Westbourne flock for many years. At a recent classing Peter Sanderson noted that the Wanganella rams have settled well in the Tambo environment. Both Peter and his son Craig have appreciated the thickness of wool on the skin, which is suited to Queensland conditions to maintain and improve fleece weight, as well as the top line and length of body of their new Wanganella sires.

Barry Doidge, our Barratta/Zara Manager, on selling his top 700 hogget wethers at the beginning of June for an average of \$139.98. Add this to their November 2016 and May 2017 wool return and these wethers averaged a gross return of \$205.45 per head. The next line of 700 wethers fell just short of the \$200 mark, returning \$199.92 for their 12 months on the property.

Everyone who remained in Merino sheep, we hope you are enjoying the returns that historically high wool, replacement breeder and meat prices are generating, and look forward to them continuing well into the future.

WANGANELLA & POLL BOONOKE RAM AUCTION WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2017

Inspection from 9.30 am, Auction at 12.30 pm
www.austfood.com.au



BOONOKE WOOLSHED BACK IN ACTION

A return to the fully restored Boonoke Woolshed in January 2017 for the general shearing of the Boonoke commercial flocks was warmly welcomed by both the management and shearing teams. Ravaged by a freak wind storm in October 2015, it was a massive undertaking by Hay district builder David Kenton and his team to rebuild Boonoke's 'spiritual home' and a relief to finally see it reinstated, ready for work again.



Photo by Annabel Lugsdin, Bel's Rural Photography

WANGANELLA & POLL BOONOKE RAMS ON DISPLAY AT:

Australian Sheep & Wool Show
Bendigo 14, 15 & 16 July 2017

Nyngan Ag Expo
5 August 2017

Hamilton Sheepvention
One Pen of Five Sale Rams
7 & 8 August 2017

**Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Ram Preview
Boonoke 17 August 2017**

Elders Riverina Sheep Expo
Deniliquin 18 August 2017

National Merino Sheep Show
Dubbo 22, 23 & 24 August 2017

South West Slopes Stud Merino Breeders Field Day
Harden 31 August 2017

Royal Adelaide Show
6, 7 & 8 September 2017

**WANGANELLA & POLL BOONOKE
ON PROPERTY RAM AUCTION
BOONOKE 13 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Wanganella & Poll Boonoke Private Grade Ram Selections
by appointment from 14 September 2017**

An on-property inspection of our sale rams, semen sires and stud stock can be arranged by contacting our Stud Team