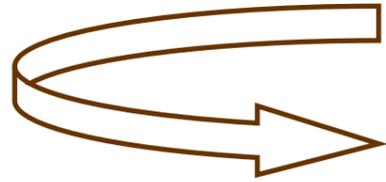


Doing it with Dohnes



Join us at Far Valley's Ram Sale
on Wednesday September 14, 2016
Inspection from 10am
Sale begins at 1pm



David Kain and Kate Doyle :: Arthur River, WA
m. 0429 626 012
e. kain@farvalleydohne.com
w. www.farvalleydohne.com



Far Valley will be holding a "Fed Well, Bred Well" workshop on Wednesday the 31st of September.

If interested please contact David on 0429 626 012 as soon as possible.

Participation will be free of charge as further proof of our commitment to our clients.

If it helps you in anyway, it goes without saying that we stand to benefit also.

Lambs sold from ewes mated is where the true profit lies.

The workshop will also cover why and how you can improve your conception and lambing percentages.



bredwell fedwell

A hands-on workshop about breeding and feeding to make more money, topics include:

- Breeding better ewes
- Improving ewe nutrition
- Developing a breeding goal
- Developing a feed budget

Wednesday 31st August 2016

Far Valley Dohne
107 Howie Road
Arthur River WA

This workshop runs from 9:30am to 4:00pm
Lunch provided

Deliverers: Jason Trompf and Andrew Thompson

Participation fee: \$75 per person (inc GST)

To RSVP by Monday 29th August 2016, please contact:

- David Kain 0429 626 012
kain@farvalleydohne.com.au

For further information phone: MLA hotline: 1800 675 717 (free call within Australia)

www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell



This years Ram purchase from Hamilton Run (Greg Andrews and Nicole Luckcraft) a Far Valley daughter stud, has one of the best Dohne wools I have ever seen, so hopefully his genetics will blend with ours and we can reproduce his wool.

The ram himself is very correct, pure and structurally sound. I hope to have him on display at our **Ram Sale on the 14th of September** this year.

It goes back to the old saying, "what goes around, comes around"

As usual we will also have our young reserves and a few older sires.

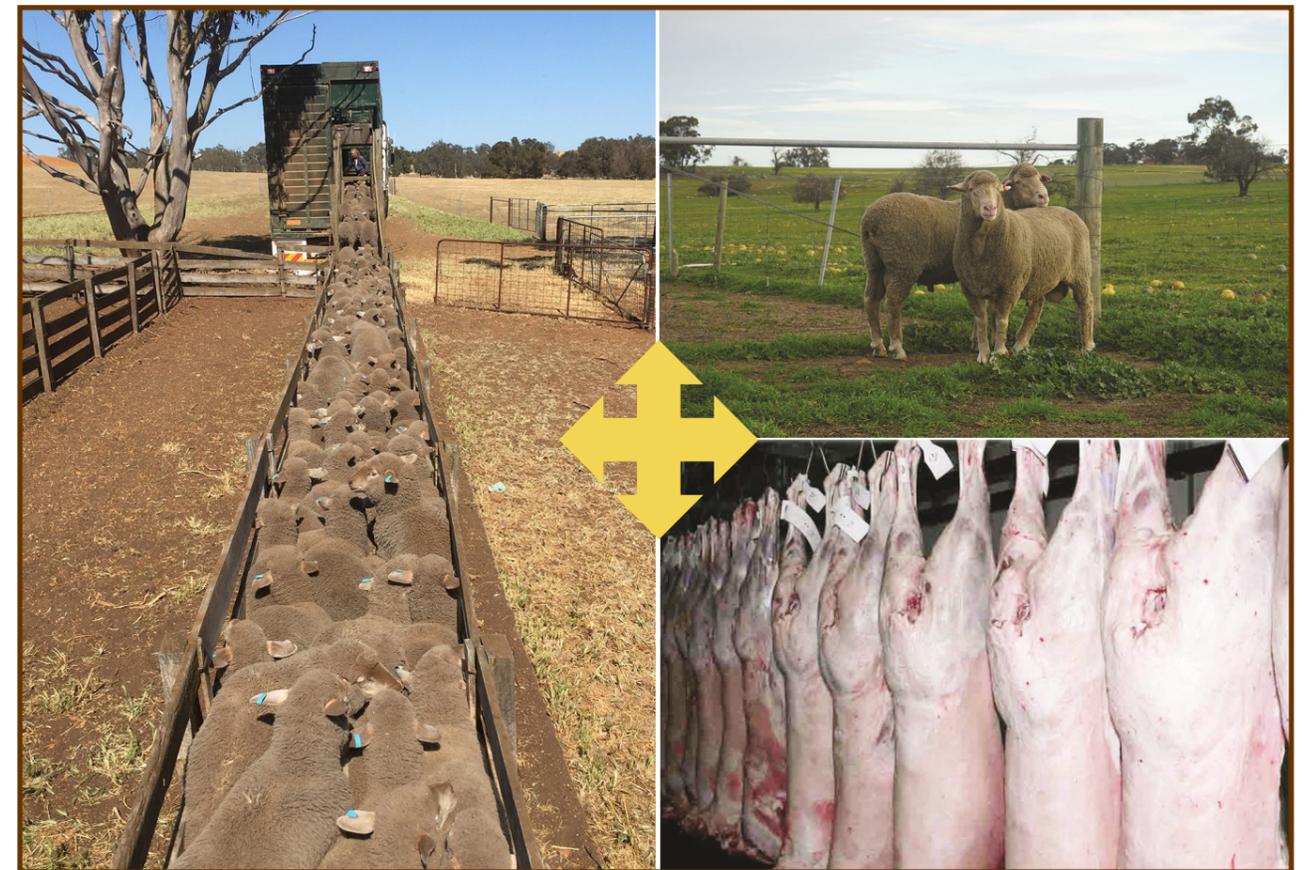
Inspections available prior to Sale Day.

Please call me to make an appointment.



Our Aims at Far Valley

- ◆ To produce fast growing meaty lambs
- ◆ To sell 80 - 90% of male portion straight off mum direct to butchers each year
- ◆ To be ever mindful of not exceeding the WPP% (Wool Production Potential) of 6
- ◆ Constant search for those sires who throw increased marbling and fat levels, with the aim to produce a lamb more market ready with the soft textured Dohne flavour that our meat is becoming renowned for.



Far Valley Sale Day-15th Annual On Property Sale

Wednesday 14th September - Inspection from 10am
Sale Commences 1pm

120 Rams Selected



Inspections available prior to Sale Day. Please call me to make an appointment at your convenience.

Visit us on our Website for more information:- www.farvalleydohne.com

Doing it with Dohnes

Analysing your commercial flocks

I hope all clients are enjoying the season of 2016, a vast improvement on 2015 so far.

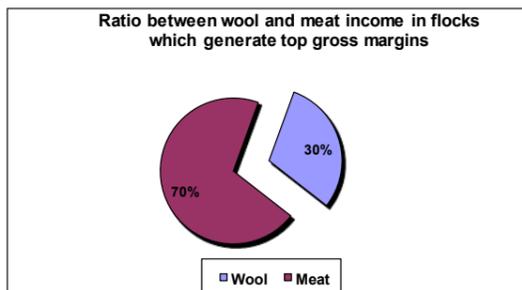
This year's Ram Sale will again be filled with Rams more than capable of filling your requirements, they are perhaps not quite as mature as last year's sale rams, but considering the season last year has done well.

An interesting fact came to light, when doing EMD testing, since the year 2000 to now, we have physically improved our average EMD by 4.5mm. This fact blew me away really, a considerable achievement. Fat levels have also increased by 1.5mm, which is great, it means we are getting our Dohnes more market ready all the time. As you know, the sooner we can sell our wether lambs the better. The other spin off of this is that it also means that the ewes are carrying a better body fat score, which enhances fertility and conception. At the moment we farmers are not getting paid for having that extra EMD, but it will happen in time, so we may as well be getting ready now.

I think it is time for all sheep farmers to do a critical analysis of their Commercial flocks and determine where the weaknesses are in their flocks. Do you require extra growth, faster maturing lambs, more market readiness, more lambs?

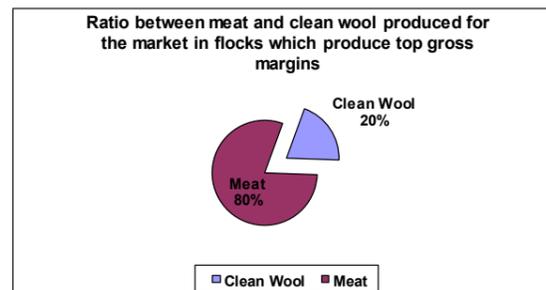
Then use the ASBV'S on display to select for those traits. If you feel a little unsure on the ASBV'S, then call David or Murray and we can explain, or see us on Sale Day. We all use a lot of science in our cropping endeavours, perhaps it's time to do the same with our sheep enterprises. I feel it is of utmost importance for clients not to try and grow too much wool, if you exceed the WPP% of 6, then you will rapidly lose fertility, growth rates, etc. Trust me when you do the sums, it's much better to have a little less wool and have that extra lamb faster finishing lamb. I know that Shearing costs and expenses are forever going up, but don't lose sight of the ball. Your main income is derived from Meat, kilograms per Hectare sold and don't do anything that might hurt that.

Dohne Workshops - Australia 2016 submitted by Cameron McMaster



Ratio of Meat : Wool
Income the most
Profitable Flocks

Meat 70 - 80%
Wool 20 - 30%



Meat/wool price ratio determines emphasis on traits that contribute to meat production:



- ~ Prolificacy
 - ~ Lamb growth rate
 - ~ Conformation
 - ~ Carcase quality
- There is no conflict between wool and meat production in the same enterprise
- Each has a stabilising effect on the other**



Breeding objectives must be in Harmony with the Physical Environment:

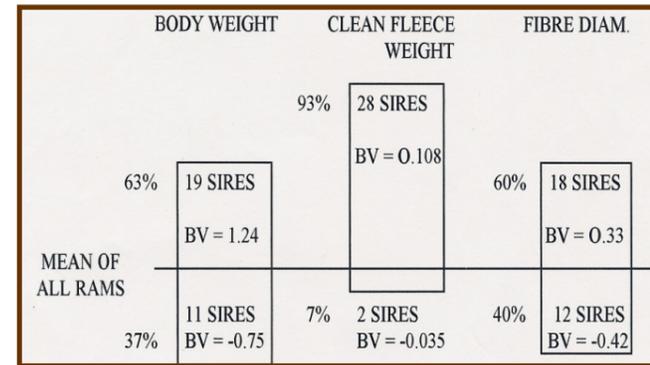
- ~ Reproduction and Growth are negatively influenced by an unfavourable relationship between Fleece and Body Weight
- ~ Wool production potential (*WPP%) Inversely related to Fitness Traits in sub-optimum environments (Herselman *et al* 1993)

$$*WPP\% = \frac{\text{Clean Fleece Weight} \times 100}{\text{Body Weight}}$$

~ A favourable WPP% (5-6%) will enhance fitness, adaptability and reproduction and growth



Doing it with Dohnes



WPP% = Clean fleece weight expressed as a percentage of body weight at test age

A critical analysis of sire performance resulted in a major modification to the ram selection index in 1995. **93% of our 30 top sires were breeding excessive fleece weight.** We had begun to deviate from the principle of true dual-purpose sheep...

From the 1990s wool was no longer the main income driver - it was **meat**.

The key to increasing profitability was **the correct relationship between fleece weight and body weight** - defined as **Wool Production Potential**.

Targeted research by Wentzel (1991) Herselman *et al* (1993) revealed that excessively high fleece weight, relative to body weight, is negatively correlated with the traits that promote meat production - **hardiness, reproduction rate and growth rate**.

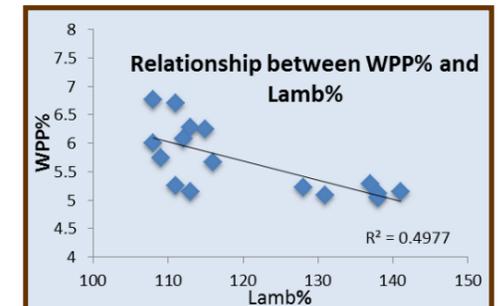
Our sheep were probably already genetically capable of growing more wool than the environment could sustain, and **this was impeding their potential for meat production**.

At a workshop in 1995 we amended the selection index, reducing the fleece weight component and increasing the emphasis on fibre diameter. **The WPP% and fibre diameter declined, the fitness of our sheep improved dramatically as did lambing percentages and growth rate.**

In 1996 the average WPP% of all Dohnes was 6.76%; the average lambing was 108%.

Thirteen years later in 2009 the WPP% was 5.15% and lambing over all studs had risen to 141%!

While a proportion of the improved reproduction must be attributed to better management, there is nevertheless a strong relationship between reproduction and WPP%



Breeding Objectives For Dohnes

- The weight of lamb produced per hectare is the single most important factor that influences profitability.
- Priority must be given to traits that enhance weight of lamb produced.
- Hardiness and fitness (adaptability) have the greatest influence on lamb production and input costs
- Set as the first objectives for Dohne Merinos in South Africa



Breeding Objectives For Dohnes

In order of priority, the objectives set are:

- Fitness Traits - (WPP%)**
 - ⇒ Promotes efficient lamb production
 - ⇒ Promotes easy care
 - ⇒ Facilitates higher stocking densities
 - ⇒ Cuts costs
- Reproduction and Maternal Ability**
 - ⇒ Fertility
 - ⇒ Fecundity
 - ⇒ Maternal traits and milk production
 - ⇒ Lamb survival

Lamb growth rate (BW at 100 and 365 days of age)

- Fibre Diameter and Clean Fleece Weight**
 - ⇒ Priority to fleece traits that add value
 - ⇒ Finer wool and higher quality

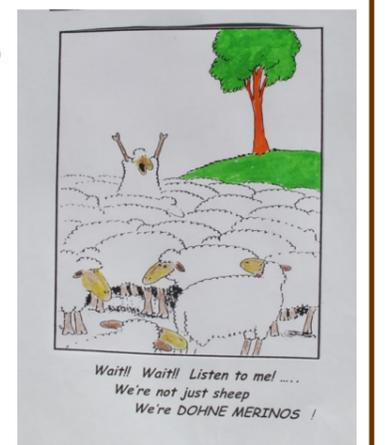
Summary

In efforts to increase flock income from higher lamb and meat production - Choice of Breed-type is important

Dohnes are appropriate in the current Economic Environment

Current market indicators and demand for lower costs indicate:

- ⇒ Selection for Better Adapted sheep
- ⇒ Selection for Higher Reproduction
- ⇒ Selection for Higher early Growth Rates
- ⇒ Selection for Wool Quality traits rather than higher fleece weights



Visit us on our Website for more information:- www.farvalleydohne.com