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The Baldwin Family with Helen & Russell Ellis, Chesney Vale VIC and the 2017 top priced ram.

2018 EVENTS

4TH SEPTEMBER

South West Slopes Stud Merino Field Day

21ST SEPTEMBER

Bundilla Open Day, 10am-4pm

3RD OCTOBER

Bundilla On Property Ram Sale at 1pm, inspect from 10am



2018 Newsletter



Bundilla 2017 Sale Results

Determined bidding during our 32nd Annual Sale of Bundilla Poll Merino Rams resulted in 214 sires sold to a top price of \$6000 and an average of \$2665. A total of 56 registered buyers came from Longreach in Queensland across NSW and Victoria to South Australia and Western Australia.

Private Ram Sales were outstanding with over 300 Bundilla sires sold privately plus a large number of surplus ewe sales.

At this year's production sale 250 Bundilla Poll Rams (2017 drop) will go up for auction, with over 400 private sale sires available after the sale.



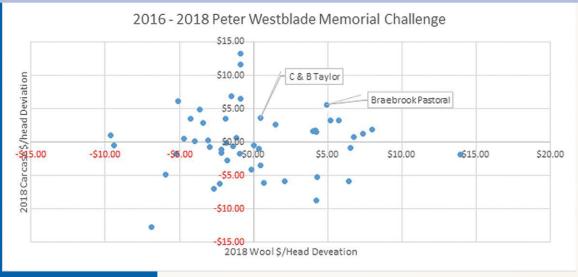
Bundilla 2018 Production Sale

Our aim for the 2018 Production sale is to lot 250 Bundilla Poll Sires, with 400 private sale Poll Sires available post sale. We currently have 350 Sires classed into the sale team to make up the 2018 Auction and have completed all of the carcase testing and fleece weighing for this group. Below is an ASBV comparison of the 2018 production sale group verses the sires sold in the 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 production sales.

	YCFW	PWWT	YWT	YEMD	YFAT	YWEC	EBWR
2014 Production Sale (170)	14.6	4.3	5.8	0.6	-0.1	-13.1	-0.2
2015 Production Sale (200)	16.3	4.6	6.5	0.6	-0.1	-13.7	-0.2
2016 Production Sale (230)	17.8	5.0	7.2	0.6	0	-14.7	-0.2
2017 Production Sale (230)	20.1	5.6	7.8	0.6	0	-15.3	-0.2
2018 Production Sale (250)	20.8	5.9	8.1	0.7	0	-15.1	-0.2
AV Annual Genetic Gain	1.55	0.4	0.6	0	0.1	-1	0

We are constantly looking at ways we can improve the genetics available to our clients through better selection of dams and sires that will impact on their breeding program in the future. Our embryo transfer programs, visual classing and better use of ASBVs throughout the Stud has helped achieve the genetic improvement illustrated above which validates the success of our long term breeding program.

2016-2018 Peter Westblade Memorial Challenge (PWMMC)



We have had several clients involved in the PWMMC over the past 9 years and every client has received exceptional results. This is very pleasing as it shows that our Bundilla genetics are not only performing well for us here but also for our clients flocks.

A huge congratulations to the Vallance family (Braebrook Pastoral) from Lake Bolac and Craig and Belinda Taylor from Young for their results in the PWMMC. Both families submitted 30 wether lambs into the trial, 15 to be assessed for lifetime wool production and 15 assessed for growth and carcase values. The results above show combined wool

Braebrook Pastoral Wethers in PWMMC



and carcase values for all wethers. These results are outstanding for both teams, positioned in the best quadrant. Achieving above average for both meat and wool returns.

Bundilla DNA and Genomic Program



We have been actively using Genomic testing since 2013 and without a doubt the accuracy of the information is improving year on year. This year we are involved in the MerinoLink and UNE DNA Stimulation Project, sponsored by MLA Donor Company, UNE and MerinoLink. We have tested over 2000 dams and progeny with the aim of improving the accuracy of our pedigrees and selection of sires and dams.

Over the last 15 years one of our major focuses has been on improving the ability of our maiden ewes to wean twins (NLW) and wean them well (MWWT-"Milking ability"). The only way to do this is to have full pedigreed dams that we can follow back many generations. So when selecting sires from these dams the maternal traits are more heritable.

The genetics involved in weaning more weight in merinos we believe will be the next major genetic focus for the Australian sheep industry. Bundilla has 39 years of full pedigreed data which is invaluable information in putting Bundilla Stud genetics well ahead in the industry already. Collecting DNA is giving us the ability to measure more dams and progeny therefore increasing our stud ewe base from which we can select from.

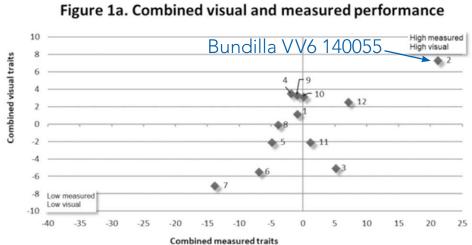
Lara Jaye (Work Experience Student) Collecting DNA Samples

Bundilla VV6 outperforms at MerinoLink Sire Evaluation



Figure 1a is based on an AMSEA Dual Purpose Plus (DP+) index

MerinoLink Sire Evaluation (Jugiong) In Flock Deviations Bundilla VV6 140055 (Participant No. 2) has had a fantastic result in the 2016 drop MerinoLink (Jugiong) Sire Evaluation in 2018. His results show a very balanced animal for measured adult traits, combined with an outstanding visual classing. Below is the deviation results from the average for each trait. It is very rare to have such a balanced outperforming sire for so many traits with such an outstanding visual assessment. Bundilla VV6, a double poll has over 100 Ram lambs in the sale group for 2018.



GFW CFW FDCV FAT FD HWT AWT **EMD** Culls +4% +0.2 -0.4 +0.4 +21% -16% 140055(2) +7% +2.5% +3.7% +1.1

How Good are Merinos!

Two years ago most progressive merino breeders were very happy with the dual return they were receiving from wool, prime lamb and surplus ewe sales. The last 18 months has seen this taken to an unbelievable new level and hopefully a maintainable one (see the graphs on right & below).

Within our industry it will continue to be very important for breeders to have genetics that give you a very balanced return as markets will fluctuate year to year. Bundilla has maintained a balanced breeding approach for over 30 years aiming to maximise fleece and carcase values with industry leading maternal traits that are unique to Bundilla.

