

"Bundilla"
706 Tubbul Road
Young NSW 2594

Rick & Jill Baldwin
(02) 6383 3802
0429 833 837

Ross Baldwin
(02) 6383 3823
0429 818 385

Jason Southwell
0429 039 521

Email
bundillamerinos@bigpond.com

Website
www.bundillamerinos.com.au

2019 EVENTS

3RD SEPTEMBER

South West Slopes
Stud Merino
Field Day

20TH SEPTEMBER

Bundilla Open
Day, 10am-4pm

2ND OCTOBER

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



2019 Newsletter



Jill & Rick Baldwin with Brendon Stoney, Bickley Park Pty Ltd & the 2018 Top Priced Ram

Bundilla 2018 Sale Results

Our 33rd Annual Sale of Bundilla Poll Merino Rams was a very uplifting day with a total clearance of 240 sires to average \$2900. Bickley Park Pty Ltd purchased the top priced ram Lot 3 for \$6500 with 54 successful buyers from Longreach, Queensland across NSW and Victoria to South Australia and Western Australia.



Lot 2 (\$5500) purchased by CW Mattiske & Co, Stockinbingal

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

We thank all of our clients for their support and look forward to visiting them in the coming weeks.

Bundilla 2019 Production Sale

Our aim for the 2019 Production sale is to lot 240 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 2019 Auction and have completed all of the carcase testing and fleece weighing for this group. Below is an ASBV comparison of the 2019 production sale group verses the sires sold from the 2014 to 2018 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 (240)	20.8	5.9	8.1	0.7	0.0	-15.1	-0.2
2019 Production Sale (264)	23.2	6.1	8.6	0.8	0.2	-15.1	-0.2
AV Annual Genetic Gain	1.72	0.4	0.6	0.04	0.06	-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.

Collecting Full Pedigrees



Ross & Susi began mothering the Bundilla stud ewes 42 years ago. This has been the backbone to our success of a very high fertility stud as they could identify ewes that could rare multiple lambs and do it well.



Every year we mother all our 2000 stud ewes & lambs through the sheep yards. This takes a lot of time but is a very valuable tool to our stud as we are able to assess the ewe's ability to rare her lambs. This visual assessment of the Ewe/Lamb package helps to identify our leading ewes for our ET programs. It also identifies our high performing sires. This year we also used DNA testing on our AI ewes & lambs as well as trialing the Smart Shepherd system. Both methods are very effective in determining a lamb's parentage.

Governor General Visits Bundilla



In October last year we had the pleasure of welcoming the Governor General Mr David Hurley & his wife Mrs Linda Hurley to Bundilla Merinos. The Governor is a patron of the Merino industry so was very interested in viewing our genetics and the technology we use within our stud. The morning involved showcasing the use of genomics, DNA testing, objective measurement & visual assessment classing & ASBV's to improve merino sheep productivity.

No Mulesing for Bundilla Studs in 2019



At Bundilla we have collected breech wrinkle data at lamb marking for the past 7 years with the goal of stopping mulesing. This year we have ceased mulesing in all of our stud lambs. This has been a 10 year goal, as we didn't want to reduce average fleece value across our ewe base.

The mulesing debate is very complicated, and should be an individual decision for commercial breeders. Mulesing remains to be the most cost effective means of breech strike management and with the use of Pain relief (eg Tri-Solfen or Buccalgesic), is being more widely accepted by wool consumers at the moment.

This year we have used a Te Pari Patesco docking iron at lamb marking. The Te Pari Patesco docking iron with rotating anvil system extends skin on the wooly side of the tail, cuts it, which causes it to recede back and leave pink skin on top side of the tail.



Our decision to take this breeding direction is so we can identify genetics within our operation that best responds to this new lamb marking program. This year we will mark 3000 lambs treated with the Te Pari Patasco Docking Iron and 3000 with a minimal mules program (with the use of Tri-Solfen) for the 2019 drop. We will follow both groups through and record costings and returns from each group to provide information on comparisons to our clients.

Bundilla Dams

In any merino operation it is the performance of the ewe base that drives profitability and reduces costs. A ewe's package includes fleece value, early growth, milking ability, muscling, worm resistance and fertility, while handling the environmental conditions it performs in. When selecting sires, majority of the time everybody finds themselves, myself included gravitating to the show stopper, the sire that stands out. At Bundilla we continually try to look at the genetics behind the sires which means keeping extensive pedigree and progeny records of the dams.

Bundilla 160754

Dams such as Bundilla 160754 has exciting prospects in producing a sire that could impact across the Bundilla stud and commercial base. As a hogget she cut 8.1kg of 16.8u fleece, and was 13% above for yearling body weight. When all of her data was processed by Sheep Genetics her ASBVs are very impressive. See table below.

YCFW	YFD	YFDCV	YSL	PWWT	YWT	HWT	YFAT	YEMD	YFEC	MWWT	MP+
35.3	-1.8	-0.4	8.8	6.7	9.5	11.3	0.1	0.2	-21.1	0.9	180.6
71%	77%	69%	70%	78%	78%	79%	68%	72%	51%	61%	50%



160754 has also come of interest as she has reared her second set of twins in 2019 therefore is ticking all the boxes with her maternal traits. What amazes me is her ability to convert green feed to a profitable product. It would be hard to find any package better at Bundilla. 160754 will be in the Embryo Transfer program in 2020.



Bundilla ZZ1, (171495) is one of the leading young sires for the 2019 joining at Bundilla. It gives us great confidence seeing the results above as he is a twin from the 2017 drop out of the same ewe as Dam 160754. This highlights the value of pedigrees to our program and our clients.