

# SPRING NEWSLETTER 2000



## KOONWARRA DIRECTORY

**Koonwarra Merino Stud**  
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### THE TEAM

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## STRONG SALE RESULTS

### Dubbo Sale to \$10,000

Following a successful On-Property Ram Sale on the 29th October 1999, Koonwarra achieved a total clearance of 1998 drop Selected and Flock rams to Stud and Commercial clients in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

These sales completed a selling season which started successfully at the Dubbo National Ram Show and Sale August 1999 where Koonwarra rams topped at \$10,000, to average \$4000, for four rams, selling to three New South Wales studs.

The Croker family of Georgiana Stud and John Williams and family of Thalaba Stud purchased KWA 7.49, the 19.1 micron sale topper in partnership with a bid of \$10,000. A son of KWA 3.21 (Young Sam), he was equal second top price for the 1999 National sale. The Williams family also purchased another ram of 20.6 micron for \$2,000, sired by KWA 3.21.

Barry Cornish and family, Ronjabar Stud at Mendooran, purchased a fine wool ram out of 3.21 Sam family, with 19.7 micron, for \$2500, also bred by KWA 3.21.

The Hewitt Family from Yeoval secured a very stylish 20.7 micron ram for \$1500, for use in an internal ram breeding program..

The team had an average of 20.03 micron, 3.6 SD, 18.1 CV, 98.9 Comfort Factor and 19.05 Spinning Fineness, on full feed.

### On Property Rams to \$2000

A draft of 94 fine medium / medium wool Merino rams from a catalogue of 108 sold to \$2000 and averaged \$929 at the Curran family's 22nd Annual Koonwarra ram sale.

The average price was up \$59 on the previous year (when a similar number was sold), with the well presented draft attracting buyer competition from as far as Western Victoria and a wide area of New South Wales.

Stud Principal, Charles Curran, was pleased to see so many return buyers in the market, plus a "sprinkling" of new clients. "We have several innovations in place regarding after-sales service to clients and upgrading our breeding program. We are in the industry for the long haul," he said.

"These are pleasing results and we wish all purchasers every success".

*Koonwarra Eliza - Grand Champion Fine Wool Ewe at the Sydney Royal Easter Show 2000. The stud has attended several major shows during 2000. Awards and results are reported on page four of this newsletter*



Next On-Property Ram sale, Friday 27th October 2000, 120 selected Fine/Medium Merino Rams.

## KOONWARRA STUD HISTORY

The foundation of the Koonwarra Merino Stud dates back to 1908. The stud was founded in 1947 by J.S. Williams with the purchase of 50 ewes which had been mated with a Wanganella F. No 83 bred ram from Elielwah, NSW F. No. 34. In 1950 the stud was supplemented by the selection of 300 ewes from the Williams Thalaba flock, which had commenced in 1908 with Springfield F. No. 73 rams being used. From 1923 until 1936, rams used were Haddon Rig F. No. 48 blood. Murgha F. No. 437 rams were purchased from that date to 1951. In 1951, the name of the stud was changed from 'Malabah' to 'Koonwarra'.

Over recent times, genetics from Merryville and Uardry have been utilised and in 1979 Koonwarra purchased 268 ewes from the Manderley Stud dispersal. With the unique blend of Merryville and Peppin genetics, the Koonwarra sheep have developed into large frame heavy cutting fine/medium wool sheep, with hearty constitution and prepotency to breed on true to type.

Four generations of the Williams family very successfully developed the stud up until 1998, when it was purchased in its entirety by Charles Curran's Narruc Investments, and relocated to Noojee Lea, Canowindra.

The Koonwarra stud sheep have been at the forefront of fine/medium wool genetics for several decades having won major championships and awards at all major shows in the Eastern states. Also their bloodlines and Koonwarra clients have competed very successfully at major wether and ewe competitions across NSW and Victoria.

A testament to this is the fact that Koonwarra won its first Stonehaven Cup in 1972, 11 further wins over the years, and been a place getter in all subsequent years to 1999. The stud has sold Rams / Semen to Merino studs in all mainland states of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand and Argentina.

A brief snapshot of show results for 2000 includes five Grand Champions, eleven Champions, 13 reserve Grand / Champions and 49 placegetters- a continuation of the consistency.

## CLIENTS WELCOME QUALITY UPGRADE PROGRAM...

Successful buyers benefited at the 1999 On Property Ram sale from using the Koonwarra Quality Upgrade Program. Once the buyers ram tally had reached Five rams at the bid price, all other rams purchased attracted a 10% rebate on the purchase price. Six clients took advantage of this new initiative. The program has been implemented by Koonwarra to assist clients who have a greater need for quality rams at this time, with our objective to assist our clients in obtaining the number of rams they require.

## ... AND NEW SELLING COMPLEX

The second on-property sale for Koonwarra Stud since its move from the Crookwell district was staged in the recently completed ram selling complex.

The selling complex received many favourable comments throughout the day, particularly because of its enhanced presentation of the rams to buyers and efficient running of the auction sale. Koonwarra stud manager, Rick Maslin, said the sale produced an encouraging result in light of the present industry climate.



*Stud Principal Charles Curran with long time client Ray Wood "Kooravale" Koorawatha, NSW inspecting an 18.5 micron 8.7 syndicate ram that he purchased for \$1800, being the top priced ram in the Long wool catalogue which averaged \$1200. Koonwarra will again feature full wool rams at the 2000 sale*

## THE KEY PURCHASERS

Rowly and Judy Paterson, Wirrinourt Merino Stud, Willaura, Vic, operating through Elders VP Albury based merino specialist, Bill Mildren, outlaid \$2000 for the opening ram in the one year old, May shorn section. The 21 Micron sale topper was by Koonwarra 7.49 from the 3.21 Young Sam family line.

Ken Wood, Kooravale, Koorawatha, accompanied by grandson Ray, took home the top selling August '97 drop ram for \$1800 and Viv and Maureen Press, Illawong, Bathurst, outlaid \$1600 for the only August '96 drop ram.

The Press family, who will use the 19.6 micron ram in their 900-ewe breeding flock, also bought two August '97 drop rams for \$1600 and \$1500.

Geoff Darmody, Elders, Yass, took home nine rams for three district clients, including Sid Kensit, SGK Pastoral Co, Little Narrawa, Rugby, who secured five August '97 drop rams at \$880. Leigh Watts, Springvale, St Arnaud, Vic, paid to \$1200 for seven rams, and Dennis Watts, Glengower, St Arnaud, went to \$1500 for eight sires at a \$962 average.



Other major buyers included John Harrison, Benalla, Vic; Michael Flannery, Cucum Pastoral Co, Cowra; Allan and Graham Mott, Green Hills, Yerong Creek; the McRorie family, Kilbirnie, Yerong Creek; Yallabri Pastoral Co., Yallabri, Rankin Springs; Killpatrick Bros, Allanvale, Ararat, Vic; the Shannon family, Bookham Station, Yass, and Sugarloaf Pastoral Co., Yass.

Selling agents were Wesfarmers Dalgety and Elders, with Kevin Norris and Paul Dooley auctioneers for the day.

We thank all buyers, underbidders and agents for their support. We look forward to seeing you in 2000

*Rick Maslin with Victorian client Leigh Watts from St.Arnaud*

## RESULTS JUSTIFY THE AWARDS

At the recent Sydney Royal Easter Show 2000, Koonwarra was successful in winning several broad ribbons, including Grand Champion Medium Wool Ewe (KWA Big Girl which went on to cut a fleece of 15.5 kilograms (34.17 lbs).

On the Sydney test this fleece measured 19.8 micron, 3.10 SD, 15.7 CV, and 99.6% Comfort Factor. A sensational result for this micron, showing the attributes of the cuttability, softness, handle, and style that Koonwarra is renowned for. Koonwarra Eliza was also paraded as Grand Champion Fine Wool Ewe and went on to cut a fleece of 12.5 kilograms (27.56 lbs), at 17.2 microns. With measurements of 3.2 SD, 18.6 CV, and 99.7% Comfort Factor, this was also another outstanding result for Koonwarra.

When the seven March shorn Show Team were shorn, the rams cut up to 19.5 kg. (42.99 lbs), averaging (33.3 lbs), 21.05 micron, 3.75 SD, 17.75 CV, and 98.56% Comfort Factor.

The ewes cut up to 15.5 kg (34.17 lbs), averaging 28.34 lbs, 19.8 micron, 3.31 SD, 16.77 CV, and 99.2% Comfort Factor. These rams and ewes have been retained in the Koonwarra stud flock, and will no doubt make a valuable contribution to the genetic future of the stud.

Koonwarra has been to several major shows since the last newsletter. A full list of results is shown on page 4.

## KWA 7.49 STAMPS PROGENY

In 1998, KWA 7.49 was mated in the stud in a progeny test program as a hogget. KWA 7.49 has bred with a high level of consistency attaining a high percentage of tops to culls ratio in both rams and ewes.

His progeny were well represented in the 1999 Koonwarra On Property ram sale, with his top priced son fetching \$2000 and his sons achieving the top average of \$1026.

The Koonwarra 2000 Show team is represented well with six sons and two daughters, and have taken several championships on the 2000 show circuit. The KWA 7.49 rams in the 2000 show team exhibit pleasing test results, (on the Dubbo Ram Sale test), where these sheep have averaged 20.26 micron, 3.04SD, 14.98 CV, 99.34 Comfort Factor and 19.06 micron spinning fineness on full feed. We have also retained several sire prospects that have also been progeny tested in this year's joining program.

Semen from KWA 7.49 has been sold to studs in Tasmania, NSW and QLD. He has been inseminated to 150 ewes in the 2000 Koonwarra A.I program and has progeny in the Macquarie Sire Evaluation Project that will be assessed and reported on later in the year.

Whilst KWA 7.49 was sold at the 1999 Dubbo National Ram Show and Sale for the second top price of \$10,000, Koonwarra retains all semen marketing rights. For information on KWA 7.49 or any other Koonwarra Semen Sires please contact the Stud Office.



Stud Manager Rick Maslin with KWA Big Girl who was judged Grand Champion Medium Wool Ewe at Sydney Royal Easter Show 2000.



Pictured above with KWA 7.49 is Charles Curran, John Williams Thalaba Stud, Crookwell, Graham Croker, Georgiana Stud, Crookwell, Joe Curran, and Rick Maslin.

## EXTENSIVE A.I. PROGRAM FOR 2000

An exciting era for the Koonwarra Stud is ahead, with the breeding program for 2000 involving a laproscopic AI program of some 965 ewes and 12 rams. We have inseminated semen from proven Koonwarra sires including KWA 3.21 Young Sam and his son KWA 7.49. Other rams used included KWA 7.78 who was Reserve Grand Champion Fine Wool Ram at Sydney Royal Easter Show 1999, KWA 5.29 sire of Eliza, Grand Champion Fine Wool Ewe at Sydney Royal Easter Show 2000 and other ribbon winners in this year's team, KWA 8.7 who was Grand Champion Medium Wool Ram at Sydney Royal Easter Show 1990 and Grand Sire of Big Girl and KWA 5.217.

We will again use Glendonald 6.215 who was Victorian Ram of the Year 1998, and subsequently purchased by Koonwarra for \$20,000, as his young progeny display depth, structure and bulk with a soft bright fleece, and on early results will grade up well.

We have also introduced semen from the McLaren family's Nerstane stud, namely Nerstane N002, Nerstane N142 who was Supreme Exhibit and Grand Champion Fine wool ram at Sydney Royal Easter Show in 1999. Nerstane contains extensive Koonwarra genetics. Also we have progeny tested two young rams KWA 8.180 (Blocker), who is by KWA 7.49, and KWA 8.9 (Max), who is by KWA 5.217.

All of these rams exhibit impressive wool test results, conformation and capacity, with all bar the progeny test rams having proven themselves in the Koonwarra Stud flock, and/or other successful studs and sire evaluation trials.

This AI program has allowed us to utilize a higher quality of ram over a greater number of top stud ewes. The A.I Program follows an extensive wool testing and classing program in the stud ewes. This will enhance the genetic progress of the Koonwarra sheep.

## RECENT MAJOR SHOW RESULTS

### ROYAL CANBERRA SHEEP SHOW 25-27th FEBRUARY 2000

Prize		Breeding
Grand	Champion Ram August Shorn	KWA 5.29
Champion	Fine Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA 5.29
Champion	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
Champion	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn	KWA 5.29
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ram August Shorn	KWA 7.49
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA BT SYD
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ram March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Junior Champion Ram	KWA 7.49
First	Fine Wool Ewe March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA 5.29
First	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 4 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
First	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA BT SYD
First	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 5.29
Second	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Second	Medium Wool Ram March Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
Third	Medium Wool Ewe August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
Third	Fine Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Third	Medium Wool Ram March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA RT SYD
Second	Open Breeders Group	
Third	Open Breeders Group	
Second	Westpac Pairs	
Third	Westpac Pairs	

### CONDOBOLIN SHOW RESULTS 27-28th AUGUST 1999

Prize		Breeding
Champion	Junior Champion Ewe	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Junior Champion Ewe	KWA BT SYD
Reserve	Junior Champion Ram	KWA 7.49
First	Fine or Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
Second	Fine or Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Second	Strong Wool Ram 2 tooth	KWA RT SYD
First	A P L'Estrange Trophy, best Ewe Hogget	KWA 8.7 SYD
Second	Pietsch's Earthmoving Trophy for 3 Merino ewes, any age	
Third	Open Breeders Group, 3 rams and 2 ewes	KWA 7.78
Champion	Fine/Medium Wool Merino Ram Fleece	KWA 7.78
Grand	Champion Fleece of Show	

### GOULBURN SHOW 20TH JANUARY 2000

Prize		Breeding
Champion	Medium Wool Ewe August Shorn	KWA 7.49
Reserve	Grand Champion Ewe March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Champion March Shorn Ewe	KWA BT SYD
First	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 4 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
First	Medium Wool Ewe August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
First	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn Open	KWA 8.7 SYD
Second	Medium Wool Ram March Shorn 4 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
Third	Medium Wool Ram March Shorn 4 Open	KWA 8.7 SYD
Third	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn Open	KWA 7.49
Third	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 5.29
Third	Fine Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Second	Breeders Group March Shorn (3 Rams & 2 Ewes)	

### SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHEEP SHOW APRIL 2000

Prize		Breeding
Grand	Champion Medium Wool Ewe	KWA 8.7 SYD
Grand	Champion Fine Wool Ewe	KWA 5.29
Champion	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
Champion	Fine Wool Ewe March Shorn	KWA 5.29
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ram August Shorn	KWA 7.49
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ram March Shorn	KWA 8.7 SYD
First	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
First	Fine Wool Ewe March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA 5.29
First	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Second	Medium Wool Ewe March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA BT SYD
Second	Medium Wool Ram March Shorn 6 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
Second	Fine Wool Ram August Shorn 4 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Third	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 4 Tooth	KWA 5.29
Fifth	Medium Wool Ewe August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
Third	State Final NSW Pairs of the Year	KWA 7.49 & 5.29

### CUMNOCK SHOW RESULTS 24th MARCH 2000

Prize		Breeding
Grand	Champion Merino Ewe	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Grand Champion Ewe	KWA BT SYD
Champion	Fine Wool Ram	KWA 3.21
Champion	Fine Wool Ewe	KWA 5.29
Champion	Medium Wool Ewe	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ram	KWA 8.7 SYD
Reserve	Champion Medium Wool Ewe	KWA BT SYD
First	Fine Wool Ram 6 Tooth	KWA 3.21
First	Fine Wool Ewe 4 Tooth	KWA 5.29
First	Medium Wool Ewe 6 Tooth	KWA BT SYD
First	Medium Wool Ewe 4 Tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD
First	Medium Wool Ram August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
First	Medium Wool Ewe August Shorn 2 Tooth	KWA 7.49
First	Pen of 3 Merino Ewes	
First	Breeders Group	
Second	Medium Wool Ewe 6 Tooth	T.P Maestro
Second	Medium Wool Ram 6 tooth	KWA 8.7 SYD



Sale day action at 1999 On Property Ram Sale

FLOCK RAMS available from October 30, 2000  
 All grades to suit your Stud or Flock requirements.  
 All Rams presented with current fleece test results  
 Free Delivery to most areas  
 STUD EWES of mixed age, March Shorn, Not Station Mated will be available from Mid October.

### .com rams

We are updating our client database details and have found many clients now have internet access. If you are online, or would like to receive the Koonwarra newsletter, please drop us a line. We will shortly be developing a web site and will keep you posted on the progress

### AN INVITATION FROM KOONWARRA

We welcome all clients and interested breeders on property to discuss your breeding objectives with the Koonwarra team, or to inspect the rams at the KOONWARRA ON PROPERTY RAM SALE, Friday 27th October 2000, at Noojee Lea, Canowindra. We would also be pleased to arrange an inspection of other facets of the stud operation or the sheep of your choice.

### HEALTH REPORT

Koonwarra is committed to upholding the exacting health requirements of our stud sheep so that we deliver to clients a product that has a clean health status. Koonwarra is Brucellosis accredited free and Footrot free and OJD MNI accredited free in the control zone.

### DIARY OF KEY DATES

July 21-24 2000	Bendigo	Australian Sheep and Wool Show
August 7-8	Hamilton	Hamilton Sheepvention, Victoria
August 25-26	Condobolin	Condobolin Sheep Show
August 29-30	Dubbo	National Merino Sheep Show and Sale
October 27	Canowindra	Koonwarra On Property Ram Sale
October 30	Canowindra	Koonwarra Private Selection Starts
January 2001	Goulburn	Goulburn Sheep Show and Sale
February 23-25	Canberra	Royal Canberra Show
April 6-10	Sydney	Sydney Royal Easter Show
May 17-18	Charleville	Queensland State Sheep Show

## TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE THE TOP OF THE DROP THAT KOONWARRA HAS TO OFFER

KOONWARRA ON PROPERTY RAM SALE, Friday 27th October 2000

Offering 120 selected rams, August 1999 drop. April shorn. In single pens in the new Selling Complex

Sale commences 1 pm sharp. Presale inspection by appointment or from 9 am on day of sale.

All enquiries to Stud Manager Rick Maslin, Ph /Fax (02) 6344 2347, AH (02) 6344 2344