

AUTUMN/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2002



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Narruc Investments Pty.
Limited - ACN 000 137 379

SOLID SALE RESULTS

Koonwarra's \$1,139 average

Clients from New South Wales and Victoria outlaid a \$1,139 average for 147 rams at the 24th annual Koonwarra On-Property Ram Sale, held on Friday 26th October 2001.

The top price of \$3,000 was paid by Viv Press of "Illawong", Bathurst for Lot 23, KWA Purple 48, a 19.4 micron son of KWA 7.49, who also sired the \$16,000 top price sale ram in 2000. The young ram had a 3.36 SD, 17.32 CV and a comfort factor of 99.35. Viv purchased a second ram for \$1,100.

The second top price of \$2,800 was paid by long-term Koonwarra clients LD and G Watts of Charlton, Victoria. The 20.6 micron ram had a 3.18 SD, CV of 15.44 and a 99.5 CF. The Watts family were one of the volume buyers of the day, taking home twelve rams for an average of \$1,383.

The July 2000 drop, April shorn sale rams were presented with outstanding wool test result averages of 18.96 micron spinning fineness, 20.15 micron, 3.38 SD, 16.80 CV and 99.36 comfort factor. A total of nine top performing Koonwarra sires and two Nerstane rams were used in an extensive AI program. The rams presented on sale day came from that program.

Among the volume buyers were George Reid and family, "Narrangullen", Yass with sixteen rams to a top of \$1,800 and average of \$950; Cucum South Partnership of Cowra, nine rams to \$1,200; AJ Mott and Co of "Green Hills", Yerong Creek, eight rams to a top of \$1,800 and average of \$1,437.

Repeat buyers JD and SA Harrison consistently bid over the \$1,000 mark to secure a draft of six rams to a top of \$2,700 for a 20.4 micron ram and \$1,800 average.

Other volume buyers included Killoola Pastoral Co, Bathurst, seven rams to a top of \$1,500; RB Maslin and Co of "Bergen Park", Forbes, seven rams for an average of \$942; Graeme Martin, "Bonnie View", Grenfell, seven rams to a top of \$1,200 and average of \$1,014 and Yaccabri Pastoral Co, Rankins Springs, seven rams for an average of \$1,024.

The management of Koonwarra thank all successful purchasers, under bidders and agents for their support and look forward to seeing you at this year's sale



SALE TOPPER: KWA Purple 48, a 19.4 micron son of 7.49 was the top price ram at the 2001 annual Koonwarra sale, selling for \$3,000. Shown here with Rob Stein, Koonwarra Stud Manager, Purchaser Viv Press of "Illawong", Bathurst, Koonwarra Principal Charles Curran and Stud Representative, John Bensley.

Next On-Property Ram Sale, Friday 18th October 2002,
150 selected Fine/Fine Medium Merino Rams

**A MESSAGE FROM KOONWARRA
STUD PRINCIPAL CHARLES CURRAN**

Narruc Investments has been in the industry for many years using Koonwarra genetics. We showed our faith in the wool industry by purchasing the Koonwarra Merino Stud in 1998.

Our faith in the industry, along with other commercial participants, is now being vindicated by the price of wool.



*Charles Curran, AO, LL.B, FCPA -
Koonwarra Stud Principal*

We see ourselves playing an important part within the industry by providing our clients with a dual purpose Merino, capable of cutting heavy fleeces of fine to fine/medium wools on a large framed, versatile animal.

To maintain a successful position within the industry it is necessary for all participants to upgrade their genetics.

Koonwarra continues to further develop genetics for our clients, while maintaining consistent objectives.

Clients who have utilised the essential genetic base of the stud are continuing to prove themselves in the industry.



Koonwarra 2001 AI ewes

**K O O N W A R R A
S T U D M A N A G E R**

Rob Stein was appointed Koonwarra Stud Manager in November 2001, following Rick Maslin's departure to pursue other interests. Rob began his career as a Jackaroo at "Wyvern", Carathool, where he gained experience in stock work and irrigation practices. He continued as a Jackaroo at "Terrick Terrick" in Queensland and progressed to the position of Overseer of the Terrick flock. After leaving Terrick Terrick, Rob was employed by Dalgety Winchcombe on a contract basis and as Overseer at Strathmore Santa Gertrudis Stud at "Ravensbourne", Blackhall, Queensland. Although being a cattle stud, Ravensbourne also carried 28,000 sheep and had its own ram replacement breeding program through natural joining and AI techniques. Rob was heavily involved in this breeding program and the classing of the flock during his time at Ravensbourne, resulting in a significant improvement to the flock.



*Rob Stein - Koonwarra
Stud Manager*

After Ravensbourne, Rob was appointed to the position of Assistant Manager of Malvern Hills Merino Stud, Blackhall for two years before being promoted to Manager. His involvement in the sheep program at Malvern Hills saw the flock change from 75% being five years and older to 80% being four years or younger. He was also instrumental in changing the stud bloodlines away from the traditional strong wool sheep to a more modern day fine to medium wool sheep.

Prior to his appointment at Koonwarra, Rob was employed as the Manger of Pooginook in the Riverina.

Rob brings with him a wealth of knowledge, having worked with stud and commercial flocks for more than 14 years. He has extensive experience in sheep husbandry, including AI programs, ram preparation for semen collection, show preparation and classing.

Rob is joined at Koonwarra by his wife Kym and three children, including twins Brittany and Connor (5) and Rory (3).



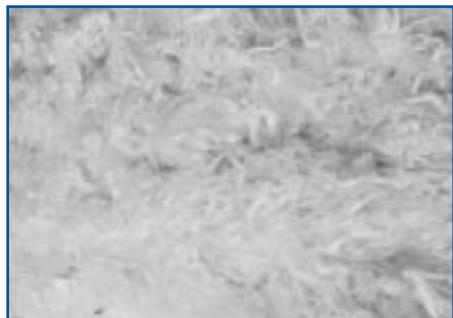
Rob Stein prepares a Stud ram for the Canberra Royal Show

25TH ANNUAL ON PROPERTY RAM SALE - 18TH OCTOBER, 2002

VICTORIAN CLIENT VISIT

On January 28 and 29, 2002, Koonwarra Stud Manager, Rob Stein travelled south to the St Arnaud/Charlton district, where he met up with Stud Classer, Stuart Hodgson in order to visit some of the stud's clients. They first visited Hilton and Doris Watts and sons, Peter, Leigh and David Watts of Springdale. They were shown some magnificent fleeces that exhibit all that KOONWARRA wools are renowned for; great staple length, crimp definition and lovely white, soft handling wool. They were also shown a fleece (that is pictured) from a ram purchased at the 1999 Koonwarra on Property Ram Sale, which was an outstanding example of the KWA wool type.

They then saw Mr Keith Hamilton and a mob of his 2 1/2-year-old ewes, which had just been crutched. These ewes were very structurally sound and well-grown, taking into consideration the long dry spell that the area was experiencing at that point in time. Keith is a real "salt of the earth" person. It was a pleasure to meet him.



This 18.8-micron fleece is typical of the wool clip from Koonwarra and was from a ram purchased at the 1999 on-property sale by Leigh Watts - Victoria.



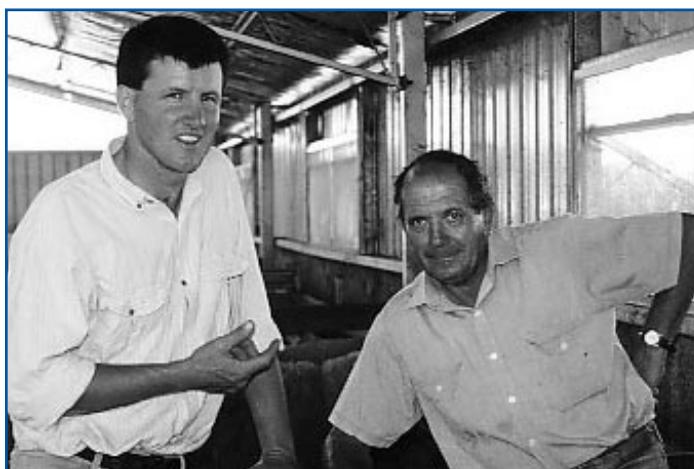
Koonwarra Stud Representative John Bensley (right) inspects Victorian client John Harrison's ewes.

From Keith, they went on to Yarwong Springs to catch up with Arnold and Colleen Bond. They were shown the current sire battery that not only has adjusted to the climate, but also has continued to grow into a very sound mob of rams. Rob and Stuart also saw the 2 1/2-year-old ewes, along with some wether & ewe weaners. These sheep showed all the traits of a truly well run merino flock. They are a credit to the Koonwarra type, to the Merino breed and to the Bond family.

In early February Rob visited John &

Sharon Harrison at Warrenbayne, Victoria where classing of the 1 1/2-year-old-ewes was underway with sheep classer, John Bensley. These ewes averaged 19 micron and were exhibiting great staple length, style and handle and once again the wool test of the sires demonstrated the Koonwarra's ability to adapt to the climate they go into.

Rob and Stuart would like to thank everyone for their time and generous hospitality. It was very much appreciated and enjoyed.



Koonwarra Stud Manager, Rob Stein and Stud Representative, John Bensley discuss the Stud's 2002 show team.

2001 BENDIGO AND DUBBO SALE RESULTS

| Sales | Tag No. | Sire | Micron | Spin Mic | StDev | S.D. | C.F. | Price | Purchaser |
|---------|----------|---------|--------|----------|-------|------|------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Bendigo | A7213/63 | 7.78 | 20.1 | 19.1 | 3.6 | 17.9 | 99.1 | \$2000 | HH & DE Watts |
| Bendigo | A7209/64 | 7.78 | 18.5 | 17.5 | 3.2 | 17.3 | 99.7 | \$1750 | Gerry Lane |
| Dubbo | A7241/47 | 8.7 Syn | 20.3 | 18.8 | 2.9 | 14.3 | 99.4 | \$1500 | AA & J.A. Pearce |
| Dubbo | A7220/45 | 3.4 | 21.1 | 19.7 | 3.3 | 15.6 | 98.8 | \$1500 | Killoola Pastoral Co |
| Dubbo | A7223/43 | 4.144 | 20.3 | 19.2 | 3.5 | 17.2 | 99 | \$3500 | Yarrawin Stud, McKinnon & Co |
| Dubbo | A7235/44 | 6.40 | 19.1 | 18 | 3.2 | 16.8 | 99.4 | \$1500 | AA & J.A. Pearce |
| Dubbo | A7246/42 | 6.215 | 20.6 | 19.3 | 3.4 | 16.5 | 99.2 | \$4000 | Benneton "Leleque" Stud Argentina |
| Dubbo | 7.78-5 | 7.78 | 18.7 | 17.8 | 3.4 | 16.2 | 99.6 | \$6000 | Okehampton Merino Stud Tasmania |

KOONWARRA CLIENTS WIN EWE COMP.

Long term Koonwarra clients Graham and Debbie Mott of "Green Hills", Yerong Creek were successful in winning the Henty Merino Breeder's Maiden Ewe Competition that was held in February.

Trading as AJ Mott and Co., the Mott family have been buying Koonwarra rams for over 27 years, with Graham's father, Allan sourcing Koonwarra genetics since 1975.

The Mott family run 4,000 Fine/ Fine Medium wool Merinos, including 1,580 breeding ewes.

The flock has been classed by Ken McCrabb since 1964, and on his advice, the bloodlines were changed to pure Koonwarra in the mid 70s.

Graham said the Koonwarra sheep handle the area well and allowed them to get the micron and wool cut they want.

The Motts shear their flock over two weeks in May/June, with last year's wool clip averaging between 20 and 21 micron. The older ewes wool cut averaged six kg whilst the maiden ewes cut five and a half kgs.

Their wool is sold at auction in Sydney by Schute Bell and last year's clip recorded strong sales from buyers keen to purchase wool from Koonwarra genetics.

The judges were impressed with the Mott Family's maiden ewes and many positive comments were made about the flock by visitors to the property.

Graham said entering the ewe competition gave him the opportunity to compare his sheep with other flocks.

Such is the success of the Koonwarra blood sheep in the area that Graham said a nearby neighbour now purchases the majority of their older ewes and has become a regular ram buyer at the Koonwarra sale. A number of other farmers throughout the district are also keen to source the flock's older ewes.



MAIDEN EWES: Long term Koonwarra clients Graham and Debbie Mott of "Green Hills", Yerong Creek were successful in winning the 2002 Henty Merino Breeder's Maiden Ewe Competition.

KOONWARRA HUMPHREY - THE STAR OF THE SHOW

When Ozworks Entertainment invited Stuart Parsons to participate in the shearing display of the "Outback Comes to Fox", a celebration of the Year of the Outback at Fox Studio's in Sydney he decided to take Koonwarra Humphrey along for the ride to show people what Merino sheep were doing for the country.

Purchased by Stuart at Koonwarra's 2001 On Property Sale for \$2,000, Humphrey boasts figures of 19.8 micron, S.D. of 3.4, C.V. of 17.2 and 99.5 C.F.

Humphrey spent a total of 15 days at Fox Studio's and was brought out each day, at the completion of shearing, to meet the crowd of people in attendance.



KOONWARRA HUMPHREY: Described as a "chick magnet" by his owner Stuart Parsons following his visit to Fox Studio's as part of the "Outback comes to Fox".

Whilst in Sydney, Humphrey enjoyed shopping trips during breaks at Fox and a trip to the one day cricket at the SCG, but was "arrested" and denied entry because he was an "animal".

Humphrey, named by former Koonwarra employee, Ben Lane, who left the stud to further his agricultural studies at Marcus Oldham College, was also captured on film by Channel V whilst he was in Sydney.

Stuart said Humphrey was a great drawcard throughout his stint at Fox and was well received by the thousands of people who visited.



ARRESTED: Koonwarra Humphrey was "arrested" whilst trying to gain entry to the one day cricket at the SCG.

What Our Client's Say

"We have been buying Koonwarra rams for close to 20 years and we are impressed by their big frame and soft handling heavy cutting wool along with their ability to suit the harsh climate we live," - John Harrison, Nth East Victoria.

"We select Koonwarra rams for their excellent confirmation combined with heavy cutting, well defined soft white wool." - Robert Beasley - Wellington NSW.

"Since introducing Koonwarra rams to the Narrangullen flock in 1999, we have achieved an increase in body weight and constitution. Also, we have experienced an improvement in wool style, softness, length and cutability." - George Reid - Narrangullen Pastoral Company, Yass.

"We are really pleased with the fineness of the Koonwarra rams, our sheep are cutting more wool each year." - Arnold Bond, Central Victoria.

"I am happy with the frame and handling of the wool and the progeny grow out alright." - Bruce Black, Rankin Springs, NSW.

"I have been using Koonwarra rams for 20 years and they breed a big framed sheep that produces the wool I want." - Michael Flannery, Central West NSW.

MIDSTATE MERINO FIELD DAYS



DUBBO DISPLAY: Koonwarra welcomed both wool producers and industry officials to their display at the Midstate Merino Field Days, held in Dubbo on the 8th September, 2001.

KOONWARRASTUD.COM



The Koonwarra website is one of the most comprehensive within the stud sheep industry and can be viewed at - www.koonwarrastud.com.au

Koonwarra has joined the World Wide Web, with an official launch of the website at the Novotel, Homebush Bay during the 2002 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

The website pages include - History, Commercial, Stud/Semen Sires, Management, About us, Breeding Objectives, Newsletters, Shows & Sales and Sale Catalogue.

One of the most comprehensive websites within the sheep industry, it can be viewed at - www.koonwarrastud.com.au

KOONWARRA UPGRADE PROGRAM



VOLUME BUYER: George Reid of "Narrangullen", Yass took advantage of the Koonwarra Upgrade Program at the 2001 On Property sale, purchasing a total of 16 rams. George is pictured here with former Koonwarra Stud Manager, Rick Maslin.

The Koonwarra Upgrade Program will be retained for the 2002 On Property Sale. Once the buyers ram tally has reached 5 rams at the bid price, all other rams purchased attract a 10% rebate on the purchase price. The program has been implemented by Koonwarra to assist clients who have a greater need for quality rams at this time, with our objective being to assist our clients in obtaining the number of rams they require.

KOONWARRA 7.49 - CONTINUES TO PERFORM

One of the most successful sires ever bred at Koonwarra, KWA 7.49 has again proven himself with his progeny winning the 2002 Royal Canberra Show Junior Champion Ram. KWA 7.49-52 Montrose - was 1st in the 2 tooth and under March Shorn Fine Wool Ram before being sashed the Junior Champion Ram. This young ram has a brilliant future ahead of him. KWA 7.49 has sired the top price rams at the last two Koonwarra On Property sales, achieving top prices of \$16,000 and \$3,000 respectively.

First mated in the stud in 1998, KWA 7.49 has bred with a high level of consistency and attained a high percentage ratio of tops to culls in both rams and ewes. This is further backed up by his progeny winning broad ribbons at Sydney and Canberra Royal Shows and the Bendigo Australian Sheep and Wool Show.

Other notable sons of KWA 7.49 include KWA 8.27 Arnold, KWA 8.180 Blocker, KWA 8.124, and KWA 8.163 all of whom are retained in the stud and semen is available for purchase. Another son KWA 8.186 Andre was sold in 2000, with Koonwarra retaining full semen marketing rights.

Whilst KWA 7.49 was sold at the 1999 Dubbo National Ram Show and Sale for the second top price of \$10,000 in 1999, Koonwarra retains all semen marketing rights.

The 2001 drop weaners by KWA 7.49 are an impressive line up and clients will have the opportunity to purchase these genetics at the 2002 On Property Sale.



TOP LINE-UP: Koonwarra 2001 drop Ram weaners, that will be offered for sale at the On Property Ram Sale

RECENT MAJOR SHOW RESULTS



JUNIOR CHAMPION: KWA 7.49-52 Montrose - Junior Champion Ram at 2002 Canberra Royal Show. Pictured are Stud Principal Charles Curran, his wife Eva, John Williams of "Thalaba", Crookwell and Stud Manager Rob Stein. Judge, Bob Walters of Middleview Merino Stud, Dalgety said it was a very tight contest between the four, but went for the Koonwarra ram because he was so even all over and absolutely brilliant underneath, concluding his belly wool was phenomenal. Fleece test February 2002 - Micron 18.8, S.D. 3.10 C.V. 16.50, C.F. 99.6

CANBERRA ROYAL SHOW

- * Junior Champion Ram
- * 1st - 2 tooth and under March Shorn Fine Wool Ram
- * 2nd - 6 tooth August Shorn - Medium/Strong Wool Ewe
- * 2nd - 2 tooth and under Fine Wool Ewe

COWRA SHOW

- * Reserve Champion August Shorn Ram
- * Junior Champion Ram
- * 1st March Shorn Medium wool 4-tooth Ram
- * 2nd March Shorn Fine wool 4-tooth Ram
- * 1st March Shorn Fine wool 2-tooth Ewe
- * 2nd March Shorn Medium wool 2-tooth Ewe

KOONWARRA CLIENT SERVICES

- * Sheep Classing services
- * An extensive semen directory
- * Advice and assistance on ram selection
- * Advice and assistance on clip preparation
- * Management and advice on breeding
- * Hay - various grades at attractive prices

We also receive constant enquiry for our bloodline, so if you have pure bred CFA stock for sale please contact the stud

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 18th October, 2002, at Noojee Lea, Canowindra. We would also be pleased to arrange an inspection of other facets of our stud operation or the sheep of your choice.

SELECTED and FLOCK RAMS are available from Monday 21st October 2002.

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

Semen is available from leading Sires. Please contact us for details.

HEALTH REPORT

Koonwarra is committed to upholding the exacting health requirements of our stud sheep so that we can deliver a product that has a clean health status.

In this endeavour the Ovine Johne's testing programme for 2001 was undertaken using the blood test, retaining our OJD MNI accredited free status in the Control Zone. Koonwarra is Brucellosis accredited free and Footrot free.

DIARY OF KEY DATES

| | | |
|--------------|------------|---|
| May 4-5 | Blackhall | Queensland State Sheep Show |
| July 19-21 | Bendigo | Australian Sheep and Wool Show |
| August 23-24 | Condobolin | Condobolin Sheep Show |
| August 28-29 | Dubbo | Dubbo National Show & Sale |
| September 5 | Young | South West Slopes Merino Field Day |
| September 7 | Dubbo | Mid State Merino Field Days (Dubbo Showground) |
| October 18 | Canowindra | Koonwarra On Property Ram Sale |
| October 21 | Canowindra | Koonwarra Private Ram Selections Start |

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

Bendigo Australian Sheep and Wool Show July 19-21

Dubbo National Show and Sale, August 28-29 2002

KOONWARRA ON PROPERTY RAM SALE, Friday 18th October 2002

Offering: 150 selected rams, July 2001 drop, April Shorn, in single pens in the Koonwarra selling complex at Noojee Lea.

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

All enquiries to Stud Manager Rob Stein, Phone (02) 6344 2788 or AH (02) 6344 2344.