



BINDAWARRA MERINO STUD

"Profitable sheep for all areas"

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Winter Update

June 2018

BINDAWARRA NEWS

RECORD WOOL PRICES

The highlight of the year so far has to be the high wool prices that have made headlines not only in the rural media but also the mainstream news reports as well. Hopefully you have all been able to take advantage of these high prices during the year and have been able to use the extra funds wisely. The possibility of high prices continuing in the short term is expected due to the low number of sheep nationally but with a continued high demand from China.

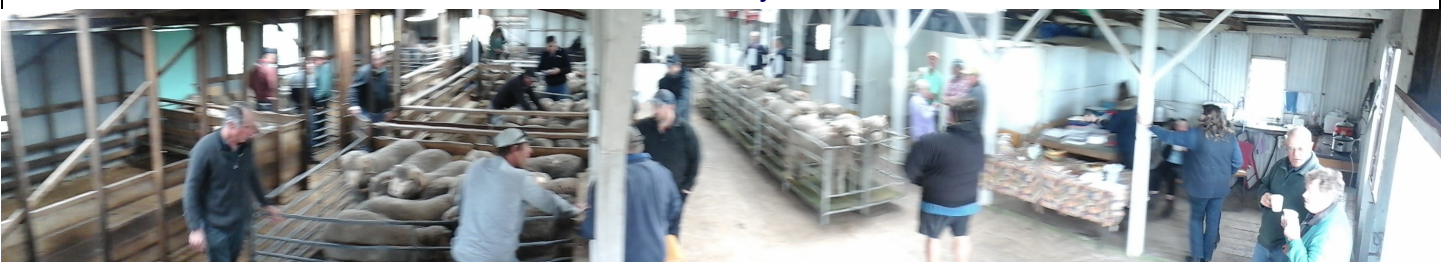
However for every high there is a low, and for us (and most of Gippsland) it has been the lack of rain over the last 18 months. After recording only 450mm in 2017 (with one third of that falling in December), we have only had 115mm so far this year. As most of you know, feeding stock takes a lot of time out of every day. We are thankful for grain growers in other parts of the state who have been able to harvest good crops to allow us to feed our sheep.

Bindawarra Field Day— Tuesday July 10th

Please find included with this newsletter the flyer for our annual Gippsland Merino Field Day to be held on Tuesday July 10th. Please note that this is one week later than in previous years.

As with other years, we will have all our sale rams on display for your inspection, as well as the stud reserve sires that we will keep for future breeding. If you are unable to attend, but would like to know about the rams, please contact us and we will send you all the figures.

At the Field Day, we will continue our practise of providing hot food and drinks all day for all visitors. The shed will be open from 10am until 4pm but if you need to come earlier or later, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.



2017 SALES RESULTS & 2018 OFFERINGS

Our results from last year were very strong, with full clearance of all rams at both Benalla (4 Rams) and Bairnsdale (52 rams). We will be offering 8 rams at Benalla this year and 60 at Bairnsdale. While our average last year was a record for us, we realize that some clients were outpriced so we are taking the appropriate steps to allow clients to purchase rams in their price range by increasing our offering.

Please note that the Gippsland Ram Sale will be held at a new venue next to Elders in Bairnsdale.

Steve At Bendigo

Steve will be again performing steward duties at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show at Bendigo from July 20th. He has also decided to take three rams to show at this event, so if you are going, keep an eye out for him and say hello.



WoolPoll
 **2018**

Steve was the only Victorian selected on this committee through his industry involvement. While he will not suggest how you should vote, the critical factor is to ensure that you do vote. The voting pack will be available to all woolgrowers and voting starts September 2nd. If you do not receive a WoolPoll voting pack, please let Steve know.

Bindawarra Poll

We are happy to report that our application to register a Poll Stud has been successful. We will have more poll rams on offer this year as a result of the careful breeding that we have been working on over the past few years. We will again be genetically testing selected rams for the PP poll gene so that you can be sure of the genetics that you are buying.



NATIONAL WOOL DECLARATION (NWD)

When this form is correctly filled out by the woolgrower and classer, price premiums are evident. Steve encourages all woolgrowers to complete this form for all types of wool, crossbred wool included.

Dates to remember:

- *Open Day* 10h July 2018
- *NE Merinos Sale (Benalla)* 14th August 2018
- *Gippsland Merinos Ram Sale (Bairnsdale)* 4th September 2018

Email, not snail mail

If you have email and would prefer to receive "Bindawarra News" electronically, please let me know and I will add you to our database. It is much quicker and easier for all. Or follow us on Facebook .



"To improve is to change, so to be perfect is to have changed often"