

Anderson Rams Newsletter 2019

Welcome to our newsletter.

It's been a very busy year at Anderson Rams.



Anderson genetics have now directly influenced over 50 merino studs, a few composite maternal studs and numerous commercial growers around Australia via ram and semen sales. Interest is growing through word of mouth testimonials, sire evaluation results, and ASBV searches.

The feedback we get is that clients are seeing a visible impact of increased early growth and carcass traits on an easy care, worm resistant sheep without giving up wool production or fertility.

The difficult dry conditions experienced in parts of Australia highlight the importance of these traits on lamb survival, saleability, labour input and profit.

It should be noted that Merino studs rarely advertise the fact they have used Anderson sires -it's a competitive stud world! Sometimes the sire is only designated by 'A'. Sometimes the sire is noted only as the sheep number e.g. '140474' with no reference to Anderson at all.


Thank you to those studs who do acknowledge Anderson Rams as sires of their sale rams or semen sires.

2019 Ram sale

Anderson Rams

Capitalise on the high prices for wool and meat with a merino that delivers an abundance of both.

ANDERSON genetics have proven in Sire Evaluations around Australia to deliver exactly as their ASBVs say they will.



Ram Sale Wed October 23


On Property, 839 Anderson rd, Kojonup

Auction starts 1pm, viewing from 10am


Inspection Day Wed October 9, 10am-12pm,

100 poll merino rams on offer with full ASBVs

Catalogue out soon



Brucellosis accredited 604



Ewes Wanted

We are now receiving enquiries for ewes with Anderson blood (young and old) as growers seek to transition to a flock that copes better with adverse conditions, or speed up their genetic gain. In the near future it is my intention to facilitate buyer requests and client's surplus ewes in a more structured way, but for now please let me know if you have surplus Anderson blood ewes to sell, particularly young ewes, and I will advise those looking to buy.

To my clients going through yet another tough season- you are all exceptional managers or you would not have made it this far. You are a credit to our profession. If there is any way I can help you, for example with deferred payment options, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

International Success

Anderson Rams have had outstanding achievements internationally this year. A ram sired by Anderson 120103 hit a record highest price for a ram sold in the Falkland Islands. The Falklands is a harsh and challenging environment for sheep where robustness and production is essential as wool is a major income source for farmers in a low-input system. Their Department of Agriculture Research station evaluates different bloodlines including a number from Australia, and have been using Anderson for several years.



In Uruguay, where a rainfall of 1500-2000mm is not uncommon, sheep experience challenges of a different kind- enormous intestinal worm pressures, fly strike, footrot, fleece rot and lamb survival.

Anderson genetics have been trialled at a couple of university research stations against 9 local bloodlines and have proven to have exceptional worm resistance, but also unexpectedly, Anderson had the two best scoring progeny groups for wool colour, quality, fleece weight, and absence of fleece rot.

This is under 1997mm rainfall- a far cry from our 475mm average!

A research paper on these results is being presented at the Australian Association for the Advancement of Animal Breeding and Genetics conference in November.

And a comment from new Zealand where Anderson 140474 is making an impact "Compared to any other "muscle & fat" sheep I've seen used in NZ he's exceptional."

News from Kojonup



On the home front, the 2018 drop rams are growing well. Last year we made the decision to leave the stud lambs unmulesed and am very pleased to report that it has not been an issue at all. I strongly believe that stud breeders should cease mulesing first so clients of those bloodlines can also cease with confidence, if they choose, knowing the genetics they are using have been tried and tested to reduce the incidence of fly strike.

At Anderson Rams for decades we have been selecting for all the traits that make for an easy care, fly strike resistant animal: plain bodies, worm resistance (resistance not resilience), no dags, and bare breech.

The entire drop of rams is still running together while we finish collecting all data on them. Being unmulesed has highlighted those susceptible to dags and will enhance culling for this. You will notice that our tails are docked to the recommended length for the health of the animal instead of the common stud practice of leaving very short tails to make the rear end look squarer. We know our clients are focused on sheep that perform as opposed to those dressed for show.

Semen sires

Anderson 160390

Most of his ASBVs are in the top 1-2% in Merinoselect!

PWT	YWT	YEMD	YFAT	YCFW	YSL	YWEC	NLW	YSC	DP+
8	11.2	3.3	1.7	23.5	19.4	-73	14%	4.8	198

Check out the latest ASBVs for all Anderson semen sires [here](#)

<http://sgsearch.sheepgenetics.org.au/Sales/ShowCatalogue.aspx?CatalogueId=136>



Triplets trial



We have been involved with and contributed to several research projects in the past year, one of which was managing triplet bearing ewes with Murdoch University.

While we are not actively seeking triplets, research has shown that flocks in WA scanning at over 160% will have 7% ewes carrying triplets. We have been involved in this project for two years to firstly identify the number of triplets, and then look at the best way to manage them for maximum ewe and lamb survival.

If some ewes are going to conceive triplets we need them to successfully rear all lambs without penalty to the ewe or lambs. We already have traits ingrained in our flock that stand the ewes in good stead for successfully rearing three lambs, namely doing-ability, fat, and fast early growth, along with recording mothering ability for 14 years. We also have many ewes with 4 working teats. Birth weights and growth of the triplets this year were similar to twins and we achieved an average of 197% lamb survival in the triplet flocks. Foxes were a problem, and paddock selection (shelter) appears to have had the greatest impact.

Sire evaluation results

You can follow the progress of the Anderson Rams in Sire Evaluations on the Merino Superior Sires website <https://merinosuperiorsires.com.au/>

ANDERSON 140474 2017 MLP PINGELLY

ANDERSON 150266 MACQUARIE NSW 2018

ANDERSON 120096 NEW ENGLAND 2016 AND BALMORAL 2017

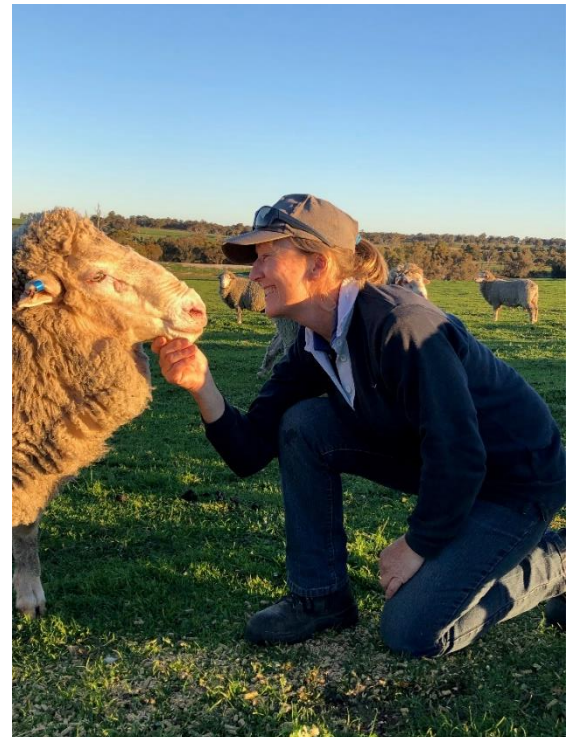
ANDERSON 120103 BALMORAL VIC 2014

ANDERSON 160390 SA 2019

ANDERSON 170660 YARDSTICK 2019, BALMORAL 2019

ANDERSON 160729 MERINOLINK 2019

ANDERSON 170390 NORTH EAST VIC 2019



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