



# PASTORA

Poll Merinos

**August 2009**

## Newsletter

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### Message from Tim Westblade

Welcome to our annual newsletter. Firstly, I would like to welcome all of the new clients that joined us last year. I look forward to working with you in the future and I am confident that the quality of our rams will give the productivity increases that are desired.

We are continuing to invest heavily in the future of our poll merino sheep. The strategic decisions of the past are now being seen in our own wool and sheep sale results. Pastora is now the largest supplier of poll merino rams in NSW (Extracted from NSW SMBA Newsletter, 2009). Additionally, some extremely encouraging data is coming out of Sire Evaluations, Wether Trials and Ewe Competitions.

My family and I would like to thank everyone who has offered help and support in the last year and a half. The passing of my father Peter was a very difficult time for all that were close to him. All your kind thoughts and deeds make it so much more bearable.

I would also like to thank the people who have helped me with the hands on duties that take place at Pastora. Without their help during the busy times, the management of Pastora would have been so much more difficult.



### AI Program

As stated in last year's newsletter, we have commenced an AI Program.

The program has expanded in size as the year progressed. We inseminated a total of 560 ewes to 7 of our own rams and 2 outside poll rams in late January.

The linkage from the outside sires will allow Pastora Polls to submit 2009 drop rams and ewes to the Sheep Genetics database.

This information will provide Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) on a large portion of the 2009 drop rams.

The ASBV data will strengthen Pastora's commitment to give our clients confidence in the product they are purchasing.

## Performance In The Paddock

...Combining Wool and Carcass values the three Pastora blood teams ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> across 30 teams.

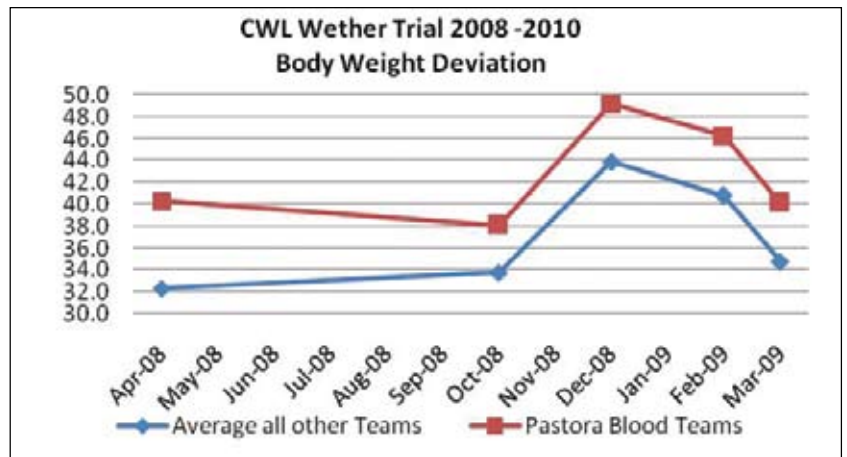
Pastora clients have continued to achieve outstanding results, most recently in the Craig Wilson Livestock Wether Trial 2008-2010 run at Paling Yards, Taralga, north of Goulburn.

This trial is Australia's largest current wether trial and includes other high performing merino bloodlines. The trial is designed to evaluate teams both per head and in terms of net returns per hectare. Given the high stocking rates used in the trial, the constitution of the Pastora blood teams was excellent. Looking at their carcass values alone, Pastora client's teams were placed 1st, 3rd and 4th.

These results prove Pastora bloodline sheep are well placed to take advantage of the booming mutton and merino lamb prices.

## Pastora Bloodline Weighs In

Pastora blood teams maintained above average measurements in all five body weights in the first year.



Given the similar ages of the wethers in the trial, this graph clearly demonstrates the early growth potential of Pastora blood sheep.

## CWL Wether Trial 2008 - 2010 Deviation from Average

The Pastora bloodline produced more than \$37 net profit per hectare above the average of all other teams.

PASTORA (AVG. OF THE 3 TEAMS)	TRAIT
+ \$37.47	NET PROFIT / HA
+ \$1.03	WOOL VALUE
+ \$5.08	CARCASS VALUE
+ 0.16	FIBRE DIAMETER
- 0.20	CV OF FIBRE DIAMETER
+0.03 MM	FAT DEPTH
-0.05 NKT	STAPLE STRENGTH
+ 0.65 MM	LENGTH
+ 6%	CLEAN FLEECE WEIGHT
+ 3%	EYE MUSCLE DEPTH

Pastora blood sheep have displayed great balance combining desirable measurements in most traits.



From L to R: Malcolm Peak (Bogo), Craig Wilson, Tim Westblade & Phillip Toland with TP 8.1288  
At 14 months of age

## Future Directions

Pastora Poll Merino Stud in partnership with Bogo Merino Stud, has recently purchased an outstanding young sire to add to our already impressive list of genetics.

At Hamilton SheepVention recently Toland Poll 8.1288 was purchased for \$10 500. This ram displays an outstanding balance of body depth and length, conformation, soft free growing stylish white wool with no wrinkle.

Out of the entire 2008 drop of rams evaluated by the Merino Industries benchmark MerinoSelect TP 8.1288 is currently;

- Ranked 5th for the 7% DP Index. – index of 206
- A trait leader for all indexes currently displayed by Sheep Genetics.
- In the top 1% in the industry for yearling weight, clean fleece weight and staple length.
- In the top 5% for eye muscle depth.

This young ram will be used to benchmark Pastora's genetics with the industry through MerinoSelect.

## P 5.107 Excels in Sire Evaluation

Pastora Poll 5.107 progeny has performed extremely well in the North East Victorian Sire Evaluation held at Dookie.

The sire evaluation consists of 12 rams sourced from across Australia and represents some very progressive merino studs.



Pastora Poll 5.107 will point your genetics in the right direction.

At both stages of measurement the progeny of 5.107 tested the finest and averaged over 1 full micron finer than the average of the other rams.

The complete results from this trial will become available in the near future.

Pastora has used 5.107 plus several of his brothers and sons extensively throughout the stud over the past 3 years. He has been used through AI in several other merino and poll merino studs with great success.

Semen is available at \$55.00 a dose inc. GST.





Special mention to Graham & Colin Read who recently won the Moses and Son ewe competition at Temora.

The Reids maiden ewes weighed in at 57.7kgs. Their average micron was 17.12 with a comfort factor of 99.43.

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You are invited to the  
Pastora Poll Merinos  
Open Day, on  
September 18.

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## Client Results

Pastora bloodline sheep have achieved some outstanding results for their wether lambs in 2009. Congratulations to the following;

Client	Top Price	Avg price for entire drop
Darryl Kitto, Tallimba	\$107	\$99
Dave & Cheryl Gowland, Milbrulong	\$108	\$100.40
Steve Aughey, Dubbo	\$114	\$98
Sly Family, Lockhart	\$115.60	\$100.88
Mal & Judy Wooden, Old Junee	\$115	\$111.80

Congratulations also to Pat & Margaret Morton who took home the encouragement award at the Temora ewe competition.

## Upcoming Events

### Open day

18th September, 10 am to 2 pm  
Pastora Woolshed

### Henty Machinery Field Days

22nd, 23rd & 24th September  
Merino Stud Breeders Tent

### Orange National Field Days

20th, 21st 22nd October in the Shearing Shed

### Private sales

Mid September

## Contact

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