

# Central Region Newsletter

June 2016

[Edition 1, Volume 1]

## Central Region President's Report

A big shout out to the Central Region members for all their support during the year. Due to the fact that the Central Region covers all of South Australia we have decided to put together a Newsletter so that we can keep everyone in touch and to offer a different medium to keep in contact.

A big *Thank You* to the members who found the time to put pen to paper. I hope all members will find this informative and will have some photos and stories for the next one.

The central region AGM will be our next meeting, ALL Members Welcome, on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August meeting from 1.00pm at the Hackney Hotel, 95 Hackney Road, Hackney. Meals are served from 12.00pm, meals will be paid by Central Region.**

We will be looking to fill the President, Secretary and a Representative for the Federal Board.

I would like to encourage some new faces to take up the opportunity to hold these positions with some fresh ideas to help grow the Dorper breed even further in the Central Region.

Tanya Edson



### **Dates for the Diary**

**July 15-17** – Aust Sheep & Wool Fair @ Bendigo

**August 7 (Sunday)** Central Region AGM at Hackney Hotel meeting from 1.00pm

**August 10-12** – Lambex @ Albury NSW

**August 30** – National DSSA AGM

**September 2 – 3** – Dorpers @ Royal Adelaide Show

**September 13 (Tuesday)** Melashdan on Property Sale from 1.00 pm.

**September 20 (Tuesday)** Ashdor on Property Sale @ Keith

**September 23 (Friday)** Red Rock on Property Sale from 1.00 pm.



## **Genelink & Australis Update**

2016 has been a busier year than usual at Genelink and Australis. Following a busy embryo transfer season with Bronte interstate for January and February, lambing started in March with progeny from our Edson purchase at Dubbo in 2015. In Late April/May Dorper lambing from Annabel's first ET & AI program from introduced genetics (Glen Park, Dell and Bullmar) commenced. Some very interesting lambs from the 100 or so are on the ground already. It is great to have them on the ground early in the year given the promising winter and spring conditions.

May and June have seen intensive lambing with the White Dorpers following AI programs bringing new genetics into the stud. While Bronte was lambing the Dorpers, Annabel, Alex and her Mum took 11 rams and headed to the Broken Hill Ag Fair. All rams were sold at the inaugural Landmark/RFDS sale. Proceeds from 2 of our rams were donated to the RFDS. A great time was had with friends and family.

Currently we are lambing ewes hand mated to our top 5 rams from last year and we are getting our show and sale teams ready for Bendigo and

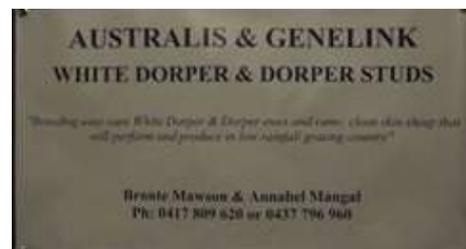
Dubbo. We will also be selling selected animals at the ADWDA national sale on 22 October in Bendigo and in September at the Prostock sale in Mt. Compass, SA.

This year for the first time the 3 studs, Australis White Dorpers, Genelink White Dorpers and Genelink Dorpers will be marketing 160 rams to mostly well-established pastoral clients who have been returning year after year.

Annabel Mangal & Bronte Mawson



Taken at Broken Hill Ag Fair





Gary & Janice Fiegert run the Melashdan Dorper & White Dorper Stud on their mix farming property on the Eyre Peninsula SA.

In conjunction with dryland cropping of wheat and barley they also run 1500 Stud & Commercial Dorper and White Dorper ewes.

Melashdan White Dorper Stud was founded in Oct 2008 and Melashdan Dorper Stud in March 2015.

After a full clearance at the past 3 annual sales, this year we will offer **70 Dorper & White Dorper Rams**, giving our buyers a larger selection.

**Melashdan Dorper & White Dorper Stud - 7th Annual on Property Auction - Tuesday 13th September 2016 @ 1 pm. BBQ Lunch - everyone Welcome.**

Paddock raised Rams, all over 12 months of age with good feet and Lamb plan figures. Melashdan ewes are naturally mated and lamb unassisted in large paddocks. Lambs are tagged at birth.

Lamb plan is another way to assist the ram buyer to select the best ram to improve their flock, by selecting for early growth or eye muscle for example. Lamb plan's new MCP index (Maternal Carcass Production) puts more emphasis on the maternal side and is exciting for Dorper producers as the ewe is a very important asset to their prime lamb producing flock.



Melashdan aim is to produce Dorpers that maintain a good representation of the breed, with high fertility,

good muscling, early growth and sound structure. Rams that produce prime lambs with excellent early growth reaching sale weights at 5 to 6 months.

The **Purebred White Dorper** ewe flock represents 18 years of breeding. In the past 7 years we have sold most of our ewe lambs to other breeders which is a very pleasing result.

Each year we sell our commercial ewe lambs as breeders in Feb and August, and are planning to **sell 200 White Dorper and 50 Dorper ewe lambs in August this year.** Selection for future breeding ewes takes place at 6 months before joining at 8 months. We are now running a line of 400 Dorper ewes. Melashdan ewes are joined every 6 months and lamb unassisted in large paddocks in large mobs. Lambs are weaned into electric fence for training. We believe a Dorper should lamb more than once a year.

Since we have included Dorpers in our farming enterprise we have been able to improve our pastures, have re-fenced paddocks into soil types and improved our waters. We believe this has led us to grow better crops and made Melashdan a more sustainable business.

Our stock may be viewed on Facebook or the web site [www.melashdanwhitedorper.com.au](http://www.melashdanwhitedorper.com.au)



Elmtree Dorpers Mount Pleasant was started back in 2005 with Black Suffolk sheep and Dorper ram. In 2007 we purchased some 3rd cross registered upgrades and another clean shedding stud Dorper ram. In 2008 we sold our then Suffolk sheep and upgrades and bought into stud ewes from Kaya stud WA. We were able to buy privately and bought some wonderful old bloodlines that have all but disappeared these days. We were fortunate to buy type 5 clean shedding pregnant ewes at a time WA was in drought so were able to purchase stock that would not normally come onto the open market. This set the foundation of our stud. We were also extremely fortunate to buy Kaya 07599 (Whylee) after waiting over 12 months whilst he was used within Kaya stud he was of old Woelewater bloodlines. He really reinforced the clean shedding side being clean himself and every lamb we bred from him shed totally. He went on to be sold to Arcadius stud where he repeated his wonderful ability to produce clean shedding. We retained and used one of his sons (Bronson) who repeated this ability to clean shed and pass on the trait. All Bronson's progeny that have been presented for typing have attained stud status with 90 percent making type 5s. He has now gone on to stud duties in Victoria. We have been very astute with our breeding. Our past history was stud Murray Grey cattle and Arabian horses to this end we came in with very firm ideas about confirmation and soundness. We have never compromised in these aspects as early on the confirmation of a lot of Dorpers left a lot to be desired which made buying stock that

measured up for us a bit challenging. We have always put shedding up as a priority as our particular market, which tends to be small breeders and hobby farmers really expected this. Equal to this priority is foot confirmation. There were and still are so many skew pasterns within the breed and being horse breeders we insisted on straight tracking even toes and correct pasterns. We have only ever used totally clean shedding rams over our own clean shedding ewes. This is not an easy trait to lock in but we have managed with around eighty percent of the stock born on the property completely clean shedding and the remainder above seventy five percent. We have worked with the temperaments over the years and have succeeded through breeding and handling to have very tractable stock that are really inquisitive and cooperative.

We are just weaning the first crop of lambs by our current shedding sire Jax bought from last year's National. They have inherited his correct confirmation length and bone and will be available for sale this spring.

[www.elmtreedorpers.com](http://www.elmtreedorpers.com)

Our Sire Jax





Well what an interesting year we have had so far, it has been the driest start here at Keith and the hottest autumn on record. The sheep were looking good until we got caught under a freak cloud which dropped 71mm of rain in March, which of course was of little help as all it did was wipe out our dry feed. We had a green pick for a few weeks but the hot weather soon put a stop to that.

The Rams have had a tough year with very little food, even less food than station sheep which makes the inside country Dorper tougher to withstand the harsh Aussie weather conditions. For our 2016 ram selling season we have over 300 rams to select. All rams and ewes have been scanned for Lamb plan by Rachel Chigwin and Rams will be brucellosis tested before our on property sale, just to offer piece of mind to our clients. Red Rock has maintained an MN2 health status for over 10 years.

We have selected 4 Rams and 2 Ewes to be shown at this year's National Show at Bendigo and we will be offering four Rams and two Ewes at the Southern Regions sale on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>.

We will also be selling six Rams at the Dubbo National Sale on the Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

We have changed our on-property sale date to Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September and Landmark is this year's duty agent.

In regards to breeding we are very happy with this year 2016 lambs with how limited the feed has been for pregnant ewes, Red Rock 140772 the Junior Champion ram from Bendigo 2015 has produced some magnificent white lambs with plenty of weight behind them out of maiden ewes.

He himself has continued to grow into a magnificent stud ram. We look forward to offering his rams at next year's sale. If anyone is interested we have semen for sale by 140772.

If you are looking to increase your stud numbers we have available stud ewes for sale all year round.

Red Rock 140772





12 months has passed with the blink of a sheep, the Dorpers, White Dorpers and Boer goats have settled in well with lambing numbers up. I have been busy fencing and laying new water pipes as I divide the property up for my needs.

With exports to China back I have decided to class all my ewes and only keep the best of the best as I will have 70 Dorper rams and 20 White Dorper Rams for sale this year. For the first time I will be selling at the Mt Gibb Sale just out of Broken Hill in Mid-September as well as the Southern Region Sale, Dubbo and also the joint sale with Red Rock.

I have been working on producing shedding, meaty Dorper rams with good front ends I am very pleased with my new stud sire that I purchased last year and he is producing some very nice rams.

For further information on purchasing Rams or Bucks or Stud Ewes please feel free to contact me and drop in for a Coffee and a drive around the new farm when you are in the Keith/ Tintinara region.

Pat Edson



Updales & Little Dales Dorper Studs are proud to present our latest ram drop for sale. Rams from 6-16 months available now, ready and willing to work. Some are ex our stud use, all a minimum type 3, half a dozen very exciting potential stud level sires amongst them. Most sired by C5/T5 Strauss bred ram, others with Jordaan and Woelwater genetics. Excellent meat qualities, good feet & shedding. Calm quiet natures, easily handled. Priced from \$330-\$1,100 incl GST.

More details, photos etc. on website - [www.updales.com](http://www.updales.com) Small numbers of stud & commercial ewes always available.

Contact Cate & Graham Hunt - 0407461174; 0418855994 or [dorpersheep@bigpond.com](mailto:dorpersheep@bigpond.com)

Rams June 2016



**Wanted - Dorper Lamb Suppliers**



Saltbush Livestock Pty Ltd is an exclusive purchaser of premium Dorper Lambs. Our Bultarra Lamb brands are highly regarded by butchers and chefs around the world, lifting the profile for Dorpers and outback Australia as the finest lamb producing region of the world.

Our Bultarra brands are sought after in Dubai, Hong Kong, Maldives, Australia, Japan, USA and Singapore.

**To enquire about becoming a supplier to the Bultarra brand please contact your local agent or Saltbush Livestock direct on 0428 422 300**  
[www.saltbushlivestock.com.au](http://www.saltbushlivestock.com.au)