



Dorper Sheep Society of Australia Inc.

ABRI, UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND ARMIDALE NSW 2351 AUSTRALIA

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BULLETIN 21/03/16

Summary of Board Meeting held in Sydney on 11th and 12th February 2016

Changes at the office

As you will be aware our registrar of many years Deearn Kliendienst left ABRI in December. Our new registrar Jessica will be starting on the 21st March. Jessica will not be taking on Deearn's admin role with the DSSA, so please only contact her for data processing enquiries. Jessica's email address is dorper@abri.une.edu.au and her phone number is 02 6773 5753. This reduction in full time staff from 1.25 FTE to 1.00 FTE will save the Society approximately \$20,000. Along with this change in staff will come a change in how we process registrations, transfers and changes to animal information, and how some of these are charged.

For financial reasons it is imperative that we streamline our registration process to involve as little staff time as possible. For this reason we are moving away from paper registrations, as notified in the last Bulletin, and introducing charges for errors in batch processing, and for changing incorrect animal information. This fee will be \$3.30 per animal. The fee will be implemented on 1st April for changes to animal information, or additions such as adding export tag numbers if this is not done at registration – please note that there is a field on the batch registration screen for the export tag number. The \$3.30 fee will be implemented for errors in batch processing after a number of 'warnings' are fixed so that there will be few errors that will allow submission of a batch. This will ensure that problems are fixed at your end. There are also some current warnings that are unnecessary and will be removed such as 'ownership of dam at mating' and 'ownership of ram'. You will no longer be able to transfer animals that are not registered, or submit a transfer batch without a sale date.

There are a number of other changes to the batch registration process that we will be working on over the next few months, to make the process as painless as possible for you. Please note that the spreadsheet option (you can download this form by clicking on 'Excel Spreadsheet Registration' and then 'Lamb Record Form.xls') is still available, but it is impossible to put any checks in so you need to be sure your data is correct or it could be expensive in error fees.

As I am relocating within ABRI, Lisa Burr is taking over as the Dorper Executive Officer. In 2009 she completed business management course at Marcus Oldham College and has previously worked extensively in the thoroughbred racing industry, at Brindley Park Feedlot, and at Tamworth Equine Veterinary Centre. Lisa and her partner operate a cattle farming enterprise on their property at Walcha. Lisa's email address is dorpereo@abri.une.edu.au and her phone number is 02 6773 3805.



I hope you welcome these new staff members and understand that there is a steep learning curve for the first few months.

Stud Sale Emails

The Board have changed the price of sending an email out to all members advertising your sale from \$55 to \$110 per email as at 1st April.

Inspectors

The Inspector's Code of Practice will be changed to reflect the fact that only one Inspectors' Day is run per year. From now on inspectors will have to attend one Inspectors' Day per year not two. We are currently doing an audit on the inspectors' tags to see where they all are. If inspectors could respond with the information required it would be appreciated. The Board have decided that in future inspectors will buy any tags they require from the office and recoup the cost themselves along with their other inspection charges. Inspectors will be notified shortly of the start date for buying tags and the price they will be charged for tags.

Butcher Wars

This event at the Sydney MeatStock Festival was a great success. We have been unable to get information on numbers through the gate but the venue was packed out the whole weekend so the numbers would be impressive. The Dorper Society team talked to a lot of people, gave out a lot of promotional material and sold a lot of hats! There was genuine interest in the Dorpers and I think it would be worth going back if this event is held again – but next time we need to take and cook some Dorper lamb as everyone we talked to wanted to try it! We couldn't have done it without the very generous support of our members, so...

Thank you to all our Butcher Wars sponsors



- Etiwanda • Peter and Jill Rundle • Ashly Brazier • Warlyn • Bellevue • Tuckeroo •
- Kaya • Australis • Genelink • Mulwaree • Barrakee • Davemm Hill • Douwana •
- Niemur • Olsen Park • Bridgetown • Harewood • Castlebar • Nomuula • Dell •
- African • Dumisa • Spring Hill • Saltbush • Merlin • Western Tiers •

Liftout

The Society will be producing another liftout this year in conjunction with Fairfax. If anyone has a lead on a good story could you please contact Lisa at the office.

Photo Competition

The Society is going to run a photo competition very soon. We need some great photos to use in our advertising and promotional material. If you think you can take a great photo of your Dorpers and White Dorpers then get snapping. There will be prizes - details will be out soon.

Lamplan Nucleus Flock

The board and Sheep Genetics have had discussions in regards to Lambplan and the Nucleus flock. It was decided that two nucleus flocks, one on the east coast and one in WA, would be required. It was discussed that we will need funding and there is a possibility of co-funding with MLA. It was estimated that the cost for 200 ewes would require approximately \$10,000 from DSSA and, if we can co-fund, \$10,000 from MLA.

Tim Stevenson has had preliminary discussions with Cunderdin Agricultural College to see if they are interested in running the trial as it was thought this would be very beneficial for the breed, exposing it to young farmers at the best Agricultural school in WA. Cunderdin Agricultural College is situated in an area central to WA and in an area more suited to the Dorpers and White Dorpers. Merredin was mentioned as a suitable alternative in WA. Hay NSW has been discussed as a likely site in the Eastern States although this is still up for discussion. If there is any views on a potential site please contact Tim Stevenson on 0427 008 096.

As the trial would include maternal traits it would more than likely run for a minimum of two or three years. We would need to find a line of very good even ewes for the trial that are as close to pure as possible. The ewes could remain the ownership of the supplier and all lambs would belong to the suppliers of the ewes. Semen from rams would also need to be sourced from across the country. If you have any questions or require any further information please contact Tim Stevenson on 0427 008 096.

Membership Renewals

To streamline our accounting process our membership renewals due on 1 July 2016 will run for only six months, 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016, at the reduced half yearly rates. From 2017 DSSA membership will run in conjunction with the calendar year e.g. 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017. We apologise for any inconvenience this will cause, but there are considerable benefits to the Society in making this change.

National Show

All region Presidents please note that submissions for the 2017 National Show are due in. If you would like to host the National Show please fill in the application form and return it to the office. The form was sent out last year, but if you need a copy please contact Lisa at the office.