

**Dorper Sheep Society  
of Australia Inc**

Servicing both Dorper and White Dorper breeds

# Eastern Region

## Newsletter

### February 2011

**Sue Law**

Secretary [matchless.law@bigpond.com](mailto:matchless.law@bigpond.com)

**Graham Pickles**

Chairman [Graham\\_Pickles@bigpond.com](mailto:Graham_Pickles@bigpond.com)

## Eastern Region Upcoming Events

### *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Inverell Dorper Show and Sale*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Inverell Dorper Show and Sale will be held at the Inverell Livestock exchange on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011, judging will commence at 12.00pm and sale at 1.00pm. Lambs preferably to be shorn and will be in pens of 12 or more, in 3 weight groups:

1. 40 – 45 kg
2. 45.1 – 50kg
3. 50.1 or over

For further information please contact Inverell Stock and Station Agents.

### *Landmark NSW Sheep Show (Dubbo Show) 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2011*

Entries will be open mid-March and anyone who has exhibited in the past two years will be automatically sent entry forms and show schedules. Anyone who wishes to exhibit that hasn't done previously please call Jan Bennet on 02 6882 8001 for entry forms. Entries close on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. Please note : This year there is not to be any animals washed on the show ground and they all must be washed prior to being bought to the show. Cleaning with damp cloths is allowed. This is a new rule but we must abide by it.

### *Sydney Royal Show*

Entries are already open for the Sydney Royal Show

With the sheep, section exhibitors need to be there Saturday afternoon on the 16<sup>th</sup> April to allow time to settle in and sheep inspections are on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Judging is on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Presentations are on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> and sheep are to remain at the show till the Wednesday evening.

For more information and show entry forms visit [www.sydneyroyalshows.com.au](http://www.sydneyroyalshows.com.au) Entries close Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

If anyone has any questions feel free to contact Mel Pagett on 02 68 747 595 or [mail@winraedorpers.com](mailto:mail@winraedorpers.com)

### *Forbes Annual Prime Lamb Show and Sale*

This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> time the Forbes agents have sponsored this event. Ribbons and Prizes will be awarded to the best pens of Dorper cross commercial wethers as judged by a prominent meat buyer that regularly attends the Forbes Tuesday sale.

This year the competition will be run on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June.

Anyone wanting to enter a pen of lambs may do so thru any of the Forbes agents.

Minimum pen of 20

Weight categories 40 to <45kg  
45 to <50kg  
50kg and over

### *Bendigo Sheep and Wool Show Feature Breed Dorper & White Dorper*

The world's biggest sheep show will be held on July 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> with Rodney Raynor judging the Dorpers this year.

The Dorpers have had an ever increasingly big presence over the last few years and this year being the feature breed it would be great to have a strong showing from the Eastern Region. Details on [www.sheepshow.com](http://www.sheepshow.com)

### *Eastern Region Meeting March 25<sup>th</sup>*

We thought it would be an opportune time to hold an Eastern region meeting close to the centre of NSW after the Field day in the conference room of the Research Centre. The Meeting will start at 3pm and adjourn by 5pm. For those wishing to stay on for dinner at the Railway Hotel in Condobolin it will provide a good chance to catch up with members from the Area. The railway Hotel is the Newest Hotel in Condobolin and has 20 rooms in its Motel section available for \$80 per night ph to book a room on 02 6895 2650

### *Dorper Information Day at C.A.R.S March 25<sup>th</sup>*

A Dorper Sheep Information Day will be held at the Condobolin Agricultural Research Station on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March commencing at 10am. Please see below for more information and activities program for the day. (Please see Flyer and Program below)



Industry &  
Investment

## DORPER SHEEP INFORMATION DAY

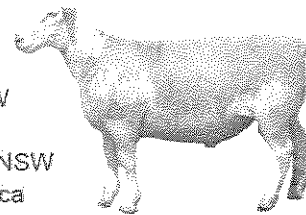
*Info on Inaugural Paddock Ram Trial & Sale*

**FRIDAY MARCH 25TH**

*Dorper Sheep Society of Australia & Dept of Industry and Investment NSW* are putting on a Dorper Sheep Information Day at Condobolin Agricultural Research Station From 10 am to 2:30pm, Friday March 25th Admission Free Lunch and refreshments provided.

### Key Speakers:

- ✓ Allan Casey Sheep Breeding Specialist Dept of I and I NSW
- ✓ Geoff Duddy Meat Sheep Specialist Dept of I and I NSW
- ✓ Megan Roger Forbes District Sheep Officer Dept of I and I NSW
- ✓ Wicus Cronje Inspector/Judge Dorper Society of South Africa



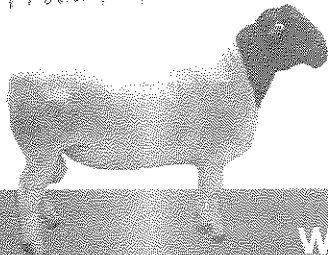
Wicus will class the rams entered in Australia's First Ram Trial and Sale as part of his explanation of the Societies Quality Control Standards.

Detailed agenda on [www.dorper.com.au](http://www.dorper.com.au) **RSVP essential as numbers are limited,** to Alice Schmidt Dorper Sheep Society of Australia 0267733805

*Mark in your diaries*

- ✓ Annual National Dorper and White Dorper Sale at Dubbo Sept 2nd 2011
  - ✓ Inaugural Dorper and White Dorper Ram Trial and Sale held at Condobolin Agricultural Research Station June 10th 2011
- Selling agent Landmark - Kieran Potter 0428 115 574

*Proudly Sponsored by*



**THE LAND**  
**100** YEARS  
1911-2011

**WWW.DORPER.COM.AU**

### *Dorper Information Day Program – 25<sup>th</sup> March*

- 9.30am                    *Registration and Coffee*
- 10 - 10.30am            *Do Dorper Sheep belong on my Farm? Geoff Duddy, Meat Sheep Officer Dept of I&I NSW provides some information and questions to help you answer this question for yourself.*
- 10.30 - 11am            *Megan Rogers, Forbes District Sheep Officer Forbes Dept of I&I NSW The importance of Ram Selection, The economic consequence of a Poor selection.*
- 11 - 11.15am            *Refreshment Break*
- 11.15 – 12am            *Allan Casey, Sheep Breeding Specialist Dept of I&I NSW The Ram Performance trial. Lambplan and the relevance of Indexes based on objective data*
- 12 - 12.30pm            *The Dorper Society Quality Control System and the Breed Standard a Brief overview by Wicus Cronje*
- 12.30 – 1pm            *BBQ Lunch*
- 1 - 2.30pm                *Wicus Cronje will review each ram in the trial and take out any considered not up to the breed standard, as well as indentifies those Rams with good breeding attributes and classifies them according to the breed standard as Stud or commercial Rams.*
- 3 - 5pm                    *The Dorper Society will have an Eastern Branch Meeting at CARS after the completion of the field day*

## National Activities Update

### *Board Member Portfolios*

The Board's portfolios have been confirmed and are listed below:

C. Harmse	Finance
D. Curtis	Breed Standards, Judging and Typing
A. Veitch	Breed Research and Development
H. Bussell	Communication, Marketing, Website, Newsletter
G. Patrick	Constitution and Legalities
P. Lynch	Animal Health, Veterinary and Magazine
C. Jeffery	Breed Liaison Officer: Processors, Agents, MLA and LAMBPLAN
P. Edson	Merchandise, Promotions, Funding
B. McIntosh	Board Business Manager
C. Lee	Show and Sale

### *DSSA Membership Numbers 2011*

The total membership of the DSSA currently stands at 713. The last 12 months has shown strong growth in membership with this time last year membership numbers standing at 634.

### *Registration of Sheep*

Sheep can now be registered online using the excel template (spread sheet). This has been introduced to save members time particularly with large numbers of registrations, as data can be cut and pasted instead of being punched in. The ensuing rego numbers will be available on your spreadsheet file after processing, so you can cut and paste them back to your own system. The original way of submitting online registrations still stands as well. If you require any assistance using this template, please contact Deearn Kliendienst (DSSA Register) on (02) 6773 5261.

### *Online Breed Standards School*

Online Breed Standard Schools will be up and running from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July this year. More information will follow soon, for further queries please contact Geoff Patrick on 02 6843 6396 or email [Geoff@godown.com.au](mailto:Geoff@godown.com.au)

### *Dorper 2020*

The Dorper 2020 is going to be introduced and is not compulsory. This concept is designed to encourage best practice and lift the quality of our breed. It is not an elitist programme but aimed at getting all dedicated breeders on the same page with information expressed in a uniform way.

## *LAMBPLAN*

The DSSA board accepts that we need more breeders in LAMBPLAN and has to find ways to get members to join VOLUNTARILY. There will be field days to educate members of the reasons and benefits of doing so. Currently LAMBPLAN are offering Dorper and White Dorper breeders a “Try Before You Buy” deal, for further information contact Hamish Chandler on (02) 6773 3430 or email [hchandler@mfa.com.au](mailto:hchandler@mfa.com.au).

## *Animals Records*

The Society is planning on adding classing details to our records with ABRI, as well as links from each animal to SGA (LAMBPLAN). This means all information on any one animal can be accessed from the one place.

## *Dorper 2011 Magazine*

This year’s Dorper Magazine will be produced in house and the cost of advertising is being reduced to encourage participation.

The cost will be:

Full Page	\$1000 with a half page editorial
Half Page	\$600
Quarter Page	\$400
Business Card	\$20

A flyer will be out very soon so get your ads sorted out asap.

## *New Tagging System*

Australia implements its own tagging system using self piercing tags that are colour coded According to the “type”:

1. Type 3 – Green
2. Type 4 – Red
3. Type 5 – Blue

If we use a “button” tag then the identification can be on one part of the tag and the “type” colour code can be on the second part.

A register of all qualified inspectors is listed on the DSSA website so all breeders can access who inspected each individual animal.

Tags do not need to be Dorper or White Dorper.

At inspection the inspector sends the relevant paperwork or spreadsheet to ABRI and it is added to the individual’s pedigree including the date of inspection.

Inspection ages:

- Rams – – minimum of 10 months of age.
- Ewes – minimum of 9 months of age.

## New Australian Tagging System for Dorper Inspections to commence in 2011

The Dorper breed has for many years used an inspection system to improve the visual quality of the breed and to allow breeders to have an independent, qualified inspector to evaluate their sheep. This system includes inspection and tagging with "stud tags". Many Australian breeders have utilised this system using South African and Namibian inspectors and the South African registered tags. In 2011 Australia will instigate a new Australian inspection and tagging system which will improve the quality control over the Dorper breed in Australia.

The system is NOT compulsory and being involved is at the discretion of the stud owner. The DSSA will appoint inspectors that have qualified under the internationally recognised evaluation system where participants will have to pass a junior course, 2 senior courses, and 2 judges exams.

The new system will clearly show the individual animal's 'Type' by the use of different colour button tags (non-electronic) to distinguish between Type 5 (T5), T4 and T3 classifications. (T5 blue, T4 red and T3 green.) The DSSA has been working with ear tag manufacturers to develop a more visual tagging system. This will assist with buyer confidence in our industry. The typing score will also be recorded in the animal's pedigree at ABRI (for animals typed under the *new* system). The DSSA has decided to tag T3 (first selection) ewes. A T3 ewe is not a stud animal but is recognised as a ewe of sufficient quality to "breed up" if mated to a stud ram. As the Dorper industry rapidly grows in Australia many breeders are using T3 animals. The tags will all be pre-numbered to assist with data recording and to ensure against any misuse. This number will be on the white underside of the tag (commencing at 00001). The typing colour will be on the top (male) of the tag, along with the wording DSSA and T5, T4 or T3. Typing will continue to be based on the International Dorper Typing Standard used by all countries producing Dorpers, including America, Canada, Australia, Brazil, Mexico, South Africa and Namibia etc. International Inspectors wishing to perform inspections in Australia will be required to apply to the DSSA for permission to inspect animals in Australia. The application form will be available from the DSSA website.

Tags will be available to the Inspectors from the DSSA office and will only be able to be held by registered Inspectors. Being the button type of tag they will be easier to insert into the ear and will have fewer problems with infection than the metal tags currently used. The Inspectors will tag the sheep and complete an Inspectors report, which will also record the hours worked and distance travelled. This report will be signed by both the Inspector and the Breeder. The report will be returned to the DSSA where the details of the inspection will be recorded. An invoice will then be generated for costs to the Breeder. This will ensure a consistent charge for typing services, and will ensure that all records and tags are managed by the Society. The Society will generate an income from this service to cover the administration costs and recording. Registered Inspectors will meet every six months to ensure continuity and consistency and also to discuss issues within the breed. The DSSA Board has also asked Inspectors to place more emphasis on improving feet and leg structure as this is one area where Australian Breeders have asked for improvement. A link titled 'Inspections' will shortly be available on the DSSA website. This link will list the DSSA approved inspectors and will allow Breeders requiring inspections to enter their details, including number of sheep to be typed, location, date etc. This will enable Inspectors to plan trips to service these members.

*David Curtis  
Breed Standards Director  
DSSA Board*



## Miscellaneous

### *Eastern Region Banners*

If you know the whereabouts of the Eastern Region Dorper banner/s, could you please contact Alice Schmidt at the Dorper Society via email [dorpereo@abri.une.edu.au](mailto:dorpereo@abri.une.edu.au) or phone (02) 6773 3805. Thank you!

### *We wish to advise the following:*

Ron and Maureen Looker would like to advise that they no longer supply Bruce Family Butchery formerly known as Whan's South End Butchery as James Cook has joined the army.

We are now supplying Midway Meats in Glen Innes with Dorper only lambs. Further information contact Ron & Maureen Looker Phone: (02) 6779 7574.

### *Wool Network*

Greg Sawyer from Australian Wool Network is hunting more Dorper cross wool. They are currently handling over 30,000 bales a year of Dorper cross wool and getting some reasonable prices thru various marketing methods.

*Greg can be contacted on 0409 555 877*