



The Smart Choice

Dohne Matters

A newsletter publication of the Australian Dohne Breeders' Association

April 2018

Volume 17

Council Report

International Dohne Merino Conference and Tours

This month Dohne Breeders from across Australia head overseas for the International Dohne Merino Conference and Tours in Uruguay, Chile and Argentina, safe travelling.



The Sign of Registration & Compliance

Sheep Week - 18 to 27 June

SHEEP Week will be returning for its second year in 2018, after a successful first year, and the event is expanding to nine days across Victoria, south-east South Australia, and further north into New South Wales.

<http://www.stockandland.com.au/sheepweek/>

Dates for Diary

International Dohne Merino Conference and Tours

Pre-Tour and Conference

16 to 20 April

Post Tour

22 to 28 April

Sheep Week

18 to 27 June

Australian Sheep and Wool Show

20 to 22 July

Ram Sales Results

Sale reports and photos on behalf of – The Land

February Sales

Alfoxtton Ram Sale, Armidale NSW

70 rams sold to \$3200 and averaged \$1975.

Full Sale report - [Click Here](#)

Next Edition

International Dohne Merino Conference and Tours Report

Sheep Week

Australian Sheep and Wool Show

Brett's Blurp



Top priced ram at 2018 Alfoxtton Ram Sale sold for \$3,200 to A & K Michel Lochallen, Warialda NSW.

February Sales

Harewood Ram Sale, Armidale NSW

20 rams sold to \$3300 and averaged \$1040.

Full Sale report - [Click Here](#)



Top priced ram sold to Ken Payne, "Tullaview" Forbes NSW. L to R Agent Greg Miller, Ken Payne and Harewood stud principal Justin Tombs.

March Sales

Tablelands Ram Sale, Armidale NSW

20 sold to \$2500 twice and averaged \$1215.



Top priced ram purchased by Bruce Toms from Stanthorpe QLD, with stud principal Josh Frazer.

Australian Sheep and Wool Show 2018

Classes:

Print Copy - [Click Here](#)

Previous showing exhibitors

Class 1 - Single Ram 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Class 2 - Pen of 3 Rams 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Class 3 - Pair - 2 sons of a sire or sire and son 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

New showing exhibitors and/or small breeders

Class 4 - Single Ram 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Class 5 - Pen of 3 Rams 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Class 6 - Pair - 2 sons of a sire or sire and son 2 - 5 year old - 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Class 7 - Champion single ram (classes 1 and 4)

Class 8 - Champion pen of 3 rams (classes 2 and 5)

Class 9 - Champion sons of a sire or sire and son (classes 3 and 6)

All classes to be judged on uniformity and trueness to Dohne type both subjectively and objectively.

Conditions of entry - All rams must be

Registered with the ADDBA

Current Brucellosis accredited

Bred by the exhibitor

Between 2 and 5 years of age

Maximum of 5 entries per stud prefix

Exhibitor to be a current financial member of the ADDBA and Sheep Genetics

Shorn between 1st and 7th April 2018

\$150 fee per ram

Data to come from the June 2018 2nd analysis

Entries close Friday May 4.

Australian Sheep and Wool Show 2018 (Continued)

Fleece Competition (Dohne marquee)

3 Fleece - to be judged on quality and uniformity - Champion

18th Australian Fleece Competition – [Click Here](#)

For further information and expression of interest contact Murray Rogerson 03 5577 8248.

Brett's Blurb (Brett Wilson, Dohne Data Manager)

Sheep Genetics Reports: Episode 4.

The fourth report from Sheep Genetics that needs investigating is the Reproduction Summary.

This report is complete review of reproduction records for your stud in the analysis and is used to review the quality of the reproduction data recorded.

This is normally a one page report with the results in the top half and some explanations in the bottom half. The report is normally displayed in Landscape view; however for this newsletter I have split the report so I can display it easier.

Drop	Number of		Mating Type			EWE Fertility %		Analysis Flags	
	Lambs	Dams	Nat	AI	ET	Yearling	Adult	Yearling	Adult
2017	1063	817	893	154	0	0.0	83.5	N:N	Y:Y
2016	1091	795	725	327	0	0.0	92.7	N:N	Y:Y
2015	841	597	543	146	139	0.0	100.0	N:N	N:N
2014	1019	797	827	177	0	0.0	95.7	N:N	Y:Y
2013	758	611	567	185	0	0.0	84.9	N:N	Y:Y

The first 5 columns of data are simple counts of the number of lambs, dams and different conception methods in the data for each year of birth.

The next 2 columns show the ewe fertility for each year as a percentage. No Dohne stud should lamb the maiden ewes at Yearling stage so that is always “0.0” The Adult column is what needs to be checked.

The Analysis Flags is Sheep genetics way of representing if the NLB (Number Lambs Born) and NLW (Number Lambs Weaned) data is being included in the reproduction analysis. You want this to be Y:Y (Yes for NLB and Yes for NLW) at the adult stage (we don't look at Yearling Fertility).

PregScan records	Repro Dams	Ewes Missing	LAMB								Dams excluded due to failed Service Sire	
			Birth Types				Rear Types				Yearling	Adult
			0	1	2	3+	0	1	2	3+		
0	817	0	135	449	461	2	229	360	456	2	0	168
0	795	0	58	316	668	10	123	929	0	0	0	0
0	0	63	0	502	185	2	102	587	0	0	0	0
0	797	28	34	410	553	7	78	926	0	0	0	0
0	611	26	92	380	268	12	254	498	0	0	0	0

The right hand side of the report has another 13 columns of information.

The Preg Scan records are only used if lambing outcome is unknown. With full pedigree of lambs and inclusion of Dry ewes and Dead lambs Dohne breeders should have a complete listing of lambing outcomes.

Repro Dams is the count of dams in the reproduction analysis.

Ewes Missing is a count of ewes that were present in both the year before and the year after but not in this year. This is used to determine if you are missing Dam records.

The Next 8 columns of data have counts for the different Birth Types followed by counts of Rear Type. Finally the count of ewes that have been excluded from the reproduction analysis due to a sire failure is listed. If a Sire has a problem we cannot blame the ewe for not getting pregnant so therefore is not included.

Sheep Genetics Reports: Episode 4. (Continued)

Important points of this report

Note this is a high quality dataset but the 2015 drop has an issue.

1. Notice the Ewe Fertility % at adult stage is 100% for the 2015 drop. It is not really possible to have 100% fertility.
2. Notice that the 2015 analysis flags for NLW and NLB are No and No. So due to a failure in the data these dam records are not be included. Illustrated by having "0" Reprro Dams.
3. The question becomes what is wrong with the 2015 drop data. The answer is shown by the fact there are Zero Birth Type records of Zero. This means there is not a single dry ewe from the 2015 drop joining, that is not possible. The DAB lambs are included as shown by the 102 lambs with a rear type of Zero.
 - This stud is in the process of going through the mating records and sending me a list of dry ewes for the 2015 drop to fix this problem.
4. Interesting to note that in 2013 and 2014 there were 20 odd ewes in each year that are listed as missing but were mated the year before and the year after.
5. Also note that the 2017 drop has 168 adult dam reproduction records excluded because of a sire failure. The stud does not believe there was a sire issue and we are investigating the issue.

One last point I would like to look into is the issue of Rear Type. It has never been a requirement for Dohne Breeders to record Rear Type. We record Full Pedigree and Birth type but the analysis system does not work out Rear Type for us. If Rear Type is not supplied in the data the system automatically issues a rear Type of 0 for any DAB or DRY and a 1 for any live lamb, this is shown in the example for the 2013-2016 drops. The stud in this example has identified the value in reporting rear type and has started supplying that information as shown by the 456 Twin rear type in the 2017 drop data.

Next time I will continue to review the sheep genetics reports, till then happy data collecting.

Regards Brett

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