

Top-price for Koonik ram with size, frame

KOONIK, HAMILTON RUN AND JAG

*74 rams of 92 sold to \$3600, av \$1582

A REPEAT South Australian buyer has purchased an "eye-catching" Dohne sire for \$3600 from Koonik Dohnes, Nurcoung.

Greg Dinning, Mundulla, SA, said he started buying Hamilton Run Dohnes several years ago.

"I just liked his size, he had a good frame on him, good feet and he was a bit of an eye-catcher as he walked into the sale," Mr Dinning said.

"We have been on Dohnes since 2006 and we have actually noticed a decrease in the wool cut.

"I want to maintain, or increase, that wool cut and in the past 10 years there has been a vast improvement in the cut and the quality is coming back."

Koonik stud co-principal Fiona Cameron said the top-priced ram, Lot 3, was an outstanding animal with Australian Sheep Breeding Values that indicated he



Nutrien Geelong livestock agent Roly Coutts holding the top-priced Koonik ram. Picture by Koonik.

would have an impact on the Dinning's commercial flock.

He was in the top 20 per cent for weaning weight and yearling clean fleece weight, top 10pc for yearling weight and top 5pc for yearling coefficient of variation.

The ram had a maternal weaning weight of 1.35 kilograms, a weaning weight of 5.51kg, a post-weaning weight of 5.37kg and a yearling weight of 7.7kg.

His post-weaning eye muscle depth was 0.55 millimetres, the ram's post-weaning fat measurement was -0.31mm and his yearling eye-muscle depth was 1.27mm.

He had a yearling clean fleece weight of 12.36kg and a Dohne plus index figure of 151.6.

Elders Horsham livestock agent Richard Emmerson said Broken Hill, NSW, buyer Tony Brown was among the volume purchasers, picking up 15 rams.

"He is out on some pretty tough country, he hasn't got feed to burn as it's still pretty dry, where he is," he said.

"He is buying the rams because they last."

There were four new and 16 repeat clients among the 20 registered buyers from NSW, Victoria and SA.

— ANDREW MILLER