

The rams presented for your selection here today were shorn on the **1st of April 2021**. The fleece measurement data collected for generating the **ASBVs** was sampled one week prior to shearing, and the fleeces weighed at this shearing. The objective wool measurements presented today were taken on the **3rd of August 2021**, while the bodyweights were recorded on the **17th of August 2021**. All animals in the shed today were raised in a paddock, where they should be.

About half of the animals have been DNA tested, which has allowed us to submit both parents to Sheep Genetics Australia, who are then able to generate highly confident predictions of how the animal will breed. While this is at a significant cost, the return is more reliable figures, leading to faster genetic gain for you and for us. Conversely, those with lower accuracies (Syndicate sired animals with single pedigree) will have less accurate and more conservative figures assigned, but still much better than no figures at all. The actual greasy fleece weight percentage has been provided to aid judgement for this reason.

The Dual Purpose (DP & DP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce merinos for a dual purpose operation. These indexes are aimed at those producers whose majority of sheep income comes from sheep sales. It is for self-replacing merino flocks that do not keep their wethers and also join a portion of their ewes to terminal sires for lamb production.

The Merino Production (MP & MP+) indexes rank animals on their ability to produce progeny for a fine wool operation that has significant surplus sheep sales. The index is aimed at those producers whose sheep income is a balance of both wool and surplus sheep sales. It is for self-replacing merino flocks who do not keep their wethers to produce wool.

The Merino 50th percentile for the 2020 drop is as below:

Ycfw	Yfd	Ywt	Yfat	Yemd	DP+	MP+
18.5	-0.9	6.4	0.1	0.4	150	148

Every year we face the conundrum of whether or not to keep any rams to breed from ourselves. We pride ourselves on making our best genetics available to you as our clients, and consequently they are all available here for you today. With this in mind, we would like to retain the right to collect semen from any animal in the auction for use in our AI Program, at our cost and at your convenience as the purchaser. For any further clarification on this, please speak with Bert or Dion.