

**CODDINGTON UARDRY POLL MERINO
STRIKING THE CORRECT BALANCE-NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021.**

Predictable, uniformed and most importantly profitable. The sheep display great consistent shape, correct structure with impressive meat traits along with white, deep crimp, aligned fibres that grow at a rapid rate on a highly fertile merino, with a current clip averaging 18.1 micron from Mundiwa /Twin Rivers Station, Brewarrina.

The wool clip from Mundiwa sold the week of 17 August 2021, on a falling market. Our wool averaged \$2560.00 per bale. Our clip is registered with Responsible Wool Standards (RWS) and is known to always sell at a premium price.

We ceased mulesing since 2006 with no management problems. Through selection and corrective mating, we have increased fleece weight by using Sires with better loch structure, staple- length and nourishment, which seems to happen when wool microns are finer than it looks. Giving a higher yield in harsher environments. We have introduced through our previous AI program, Sires with high ASBV's and found that our own sires outperformed these rams.

CU – Eclipse sold top price Bendigo for \$28000.00 to Orrie Cowie from South Australia, which we retained semen marketing rights. This ram's progeny had high indexes Roseville Parks top poll sires are out of a ewe RP 13-400 by Eclipse and this ewe's progeny has several sires retained in the stud and RP18-43 top price Dubbo 2020 \$31,000.00. Matthew said this ewe's progeny all freaks massive at weaning. Coddington Uardry stud has hundreds of ewes with Eclipse and Robert Bruce (CU5034) blood which goes back to the purple family. This gene has been implanted in all our sheep. Our Ridgeway Advance 21 sire, in his pedigree, way back has purple family blood, according to David Ridgeway from Ridgeway Advance.

We have been measuring for muscle, fat and body weight since 1999. We must be careful not to get our sheep too tall and lose constitution.

In 1999, on one of my visits to South Africa, I was inspired by the Dohne Merino Breeding philosophy by Mr Cameron McMaster. Cameron spoke about more profit from plainer, bodied merinos, with a finer micron, with a prime lamb carcass, striking the right balance between wool and meat, giving these sheep a greater lamb/weaning percentage.

During this period, I was frustrated to learn that a lot of breeders did not have the same philosophy as I did back in those days and there was a lot of criticism. Today, most breeders say they have dual purpose merinos!

But are they?

A lot of these breeders still use terminal sires to breed prime lambs. Where this is not needed with Coddington Uardry, eg. Terry, Cheryl, and Allan Nagorcke from Alpine Parks sold a draft of 330 lambs over the hooks to Southern Meats in 2020, averaging 34kgs dressed. The Processor commented "one of the best drafted lambs ever processed at Southern Meats, Goulburn. Terry says, "if you want more lambs, just keep joining the ewes and the ewes will keep lambing." Terry and family have been clients of mine for over 30 years.

THE RAM SALE, INTERFACED WITH AUCTIONSPLUS, will be held on Friday 17 September at 1PM at "Avymore" 1050 Spring Ridge Road, Dunedoo NSW 2844. THE SALE WILL BE CONDUCTED OUTSIDE IN A NEW SELLING AREA, WEATHER PERMITTING. BRING YOUR CATELOGUE ALONG AS PROOF OF ATTENDING THE SALE, AS ON PROPERTY RAM SALES HAVE BEEN RECENTLY APPROVED BY THE HON. MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MR BRAD HAZZARD TO ATTEND ON-PROPERTY RAM SALES, AS IT IS CLASSIFIED AS AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE.

Offering 120 quality measured rams, paddock reared, coming through a very wet Summer and Winter. The wools are well nourished, white, free growing, with good loch structure and style on the usual Coddington Uardry frame, with good muscle and fat. A very even draft of rams right to the end.

*PLEASE NOTE, THAT RAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION ON THE 6 AND 7 SEPTEMBER, 2021, and our special guest will be our Stud Classer Mr Angus Munro. **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. GRAHAM 0428638129 OR SUSAN 0457340041.***

GRAHAM CODDINGTON