



GENSTOCK NEWS

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ANIMAL BREEDING & FLEECE TESTING SERVICES

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It is the time of year to book your pregnancy scanning so you have an idea how successful your joining period has been this season and cull any greedy non – performing ewes.

Please complete & fax back the attached pregnancy scanning booking form as soon as possible.

For queries please contact our staff at Genstock.

EMBRYO TRANSFER LIFTED TO A NEW LEVEL

Results and Service are **ESSENTIAL** - why settle for anything less!

Following many years of experience and numerous trials, Genstock's current Embryo Transfer programmes are achieving exceptional results.

The demand for Artificial Breeding Services within the sheep industry is increasing every year. With 22 years experience, Genstock leads the way with a highly qualified and dedicated team who are easily contactable at all times. Coupled with facilities unmatched in Australia, our experienced support staff will ensure every client achieves a successful Artificial Breeding programme.

Genstock's flexibility offers on farm and on centre embryo transfer or a combination of both. Many clients are choosing to bring donors to Genstock for programming and having their embryos transferred on farm into their own recipients. Several new clients who have previously prepared their donors at home, have really appreciated Genstock taking on all their work load (especially during harvest!!) and in particular improving their results.

From October to December 2004, **822 donor ewes** were flushed on centre at Genstock, producing **6956 embryos**. These donors consisted of maiden ewes from 8 months of age through to mature ewes – many ewes having been flushed numerous times previously. This is an **average of 8.46 embryos per donor**. Due to our strict recipient selection criteria and embryo transfer techniques, an **average conception rate of 78% was achieved**.

Our success has been proven in all breeds and during all environmental conditions. With years of advice on nutrition, good management and selection on fertility, many flocks have achieved exceptional results. Some of our clients have kindly allowed us to print their Embryo Transfer results.

Dohnes – David and Chris Kain from the *Far Valley Dohne Stud* flushed 100 donors producing an average of 10.3 embryos per donor. The embryos were transferred on farm at their Arthur River property resulting in an 83% conception rate.

SAMMS – Wally, Linley and Brad Filmer of *Sunnyside SAMMS* in Katanning achieved 10.11 embryos per donor with a resultant 86% conception rate when they flushed 9 ewes in November and implanted 91 embryos on farm.

Poll Dorsets – Keith Ladyman, *Dumbledee Poll Dorsets* implanted 145 embryos from 10 highly fertile Poll Dorset ewes.

Perry Jasper, *Jolma Stud* in Cunderdin flushed 14 ewes. 96 embryos were implanted into Jolma recipient ewes at Genstock which achieved an 87% conception rate.

Merinos – *Hyfield/Jaloran Merinos & Poll Merinos* in Kojonup have achieved great results for the 2nd year. 13 merino ewes produced 169 embryos (13 embryos/donor). A 79% conception rate equates to 10.2 pregnancies / donor.

Genstock programmed all donors and recipients on centre for *Woolkabin Merino Stud* in Katanning. They achieved an 86% conception rate which equated to 14.7 embryos per donor flushed.

Suffolks – Allan Duff from *Cheeryna Suffolks* in Williams flushed 15 ewes averaging 12 embryos per donor and achieved a 76% conception rate.

White Suffolks – Harry Griffiths & Lyn Welsh of *Edith Park White Suffolks* in Mt Barker averaged 9.8 embryos per donor from their 8 ewes. 85% conception rate resulted in 66 pregnancies.

White Dorpers – Blanco Dorpers in Toodyay flushed 118 various aged ewes, resulting in 9.47 embryos per donor and a 75% conception rate.

GENSTOCK'S ET OPTIONS

1. Genstock programmes the donors and recipients on centre. You only pay for the pregnancies achieved. We do all the work!!
2. Genstock programmes the donors and the client programmes the recipients on farm (within a 200km radius from Kojonup)
3. Genstock programmes the donors and the client programmes the recipients on farm. We chill the embryos and they can be implanted anywhere in Australia within 36 hours of collection.
4. The client programmes the donors and recipients on farm.
5. Genstock programmes the donors on centre, we freeze the embryos and they can be implanted into programmed recipients anywhere in the world.



Eye Muscle Scanning

Tim Stevenson recently became Lamb Plan and MLA accredited for eye muscle and back fat scanning. Please call Tim to enquire about this quality service.

GENSTOCK: FOR WHEN RESULTS REALLY COUNT

PREGNANCY SCANNING

Early planning of pregnancy scanning can potentially:-

- Increase your lambing percentage by improving animal husbandry and ewe nutritional preparation.
- Guarantee your preferred dates.
- Save you money by combining programs in your area to reduce travel charges.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU FAX BACK THE ENCLOSED "PREGNANCY SCANNING BOOKING SHEET"



GENSTOCK

- This year, Genstock will be employing 4 full time scanning crews including two highly skilled multiple scanners from New Zealand.
- The Genstock system utilises real-time ultrasonic scanning, allowing visualization of the foetus and precise accuracy.
- Ease of through-put utilising a standing cradle.
- A drafting module is attached to the cradle, enabling the operator to separate the ewes as they are scanned to minimize handling and labour.
- Up to 4,000 ewes can be scanned in a day for single pregnancy diagnosis
- Up to 3,000 ewes can be scanned in a day for multiple pregnancy diagnosis
- Foetal aging to group ewes into early & late lambing mobs.

WHY PREGNANCY SCAN?

1. **Management:** - By removing dry ewes from the flock it will ensure that all supplementary feed is being utilized by the pregnant ewes. Dry ewes can be sold, re-mated, or run on a lower plane of nutrition.
2. **Increasing lambing %'s over longer term:** - By removing barren ewes from the flock and only keeping ewes that regularly conceive and rear a lamb, a steady increase in overall lambing percentages will occur.
3. **Foetal aging:** - It is now possible to age the foetus and split the pregnant ewes into early and late lambers. This enables more condensed lambing to ease management of feeding and subsequent lamb marking. This is a specialized task that requires an experienced scanning operator.
4. **Multiple pregnancy diagnosis:** - We have a steadily increasing demand for multiple pregnancy diagnosis. Clients who have been utilising this service, coupled with correct management have seen a marked increase in overall lambing percentages. Rams can only be in with ewes for a maximum 7 week joining. They must be scanned between 45 days since the rams went in and 90 days after ram removal.
5. **Cost effectiveness to increase your gross margins and profitability:-**
For the outlay of \$0.35c / head for wet/dry pregnancy scanning, assuming lambs are worth \$50 / head; lambing percentages only need to be increased by 0.7% to cover the cost of the scanning. If an increase in lambing percentage of 5% is achieved a return on outlay of 700% is possible!!!



EMBRYO CHILLING

Genstock always stays abreast of new advancements in the artificial breeding industry, and as such, last year ran a trial on freezing and chilling 5 ½ day old embryos from 18 East Freisian ewes using two different holding/freezing medias.

Both medias received acceptable results with embryo freezing (up to 62% conception rate per donor). The chilled embryos procured between 68% for one media and 77% conception rate for the 2nd media.

Utilising this knowledge, we are currently working on several chilled embryo transfer programmes with AI companies in NSW.

Chilling & freezing embryos allows greater access for clients to genetic gain without the risk of introducing diseases to their flock. In the past, freezing embryos has always been an expensive option due to the cost of freezing and the resultant reduced conception rates. Chilling embryos provides an alternative which is cheaper and achieves much better results. However, timing is essential as the embryos should be implanted within 36 hours of collection.

Please ring Genstock for more information



GENSTOCK: FOR WHEN RESULTS REALLY COUNT