



GENSTOCK NEWS

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ANIMAL BREEDING & FLEECE TESTING SERVICES

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What a year – summer rains and then a very late break. Hopefully most of you have managed some pasture growth.

As spring approaches, we are looking at organising this year's breeding programmes.

GENSTOCK's primary aim is to provide the best service available. We endeavor each year to provide all our clients with the date they prefer. This is made simpler by booking early. Can you please complete the following booking form and fax it back to us on (08) 9834 1062.

2005/2006 was a very successful season for most of our clients. Due to the vast amount of feed in the paddocks it was very hard for some farmers to get the weight off the ewes prior to AI/ET. These ewes stayed in anoestrous (non-cycling) hence took longer for them to become pregnant. It is imperative that after weaning, that the ewes are on maintenance feed or less depending on body condition. Once the weight has been lost then 2 weeks prior to sponging move the ewes onto a higher plane of nutrition (either good pasture, lupins, good hay).

Also remember to keep the rams away (sight, sound and smell) of the ewes for at least 6 weeks prior to sponging.

For the many clients who were able to control the nutritional intake of their breeding ewes, the AI and pregnancy scanning results were very good – averaging 80%. There also seemed to be a high number of multiples. Multiple birth diagnosis by pregnancy scanning is becoming widely popular and a useful tool for improving lambing survival. Please contact Genstock if you wish to know more about multiple or single pregnancy scanning.



A WORD FROM CRAIG

A trial recently showed by feeding 250grams / head of lupins daily instead of twice weekly improved conception rates by **11 %**.

We would also like to congratulate all the winners of the Genstock prizes. We are very proud to support the various agricultural shows and sales:

Woolorama 2006

- ✚ *Reserve Grand Champion Poll Merino Ram* – Don Eaton from **Olinda Stud**, Wyalkatchem
- ✚ *Most Points, Ewes* – Eric & Chris Patterson from **Woolkabin Stud**, Katanning
- ✚ *Champion Dorper Ewe* – Bronte Gardner from **Ida Vale Stud**, Kojonup
- ✚ *Champion Prime SAMM Ewe* – Hayden and Mark Edwards from **Rockdale Stud**, Dumbleyung
- ✚ *Champion Poll Dorset Ewe* – Max Whyte & Gail Cremasco from **Brimfield Stud**, Kendenup

Katanning Rabobank Merino Show & Sale 2006

- ✚ *Most Points Award* – Ray Lewis from **Lewisdale Stud**, Wickepin

Perth Royal Show 2005

- ✚ *British, Australasian & Other Interbreed Champion Ram* – Grant Bingham from **Iveston, Williams**

Genstock is also a proud sponsor of the Merino Long Wool Field day, this year held at Williams as part of the Merino World Conference Week. This was an exciting event and well attended by national and international visitors. The individual and group displays at Katanning for Merinos, Dohnes and SAMMs were very impressive.

Many visitors would have realised the quality and potential of the genetics in Western Australia. Genstock is an Internationally accredited Embryo Transfer and Semen Freezing centre. Any queries regarding export please contact us.

Embryo transfer last season took on new heights. Large embryo chilling programmes were performed with successful results. Genstock has the largest on-centre ET facilities in Australia. We perform 2000 donor flushes per season resulting in nearly 20 000 embryo transfers. A mature donor ewe averages 8 -10 embryos flushed with an average 75% take rate, this results in 6 – 8 lambs per donor flushed. Please contact Genstock if you wish to know more about Embryo transfer.

We would also like to remind you about purchasing frozen semen from the Eastern States for the forthcoming AI season. This may take 2-3 weeks in transport so please allow plenty of time to order. To try to minimise transfer costs Genstock tries to group up dispatches, so please notify us if you are expecting semen from another AI Centre.

Good luck with the rest of the year and we hope to speak to you soon. Please remember to complete the attached booking form and fax it back to us as soon as you can.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

Craig



GENSTOCK: FOR WHEN RESULTS REALLY COUNT