



HEALTHY COMPETITION

We have a healthy competition between the younger generation from Spylaw and Bullock Range. Check out their yield summary from last year’s supply at Alliance.

Lamb Yield Summary - Spylaw Farm			
		No. Ccs	% of Kill
	Lambs supplied between 14.50kgs and 21.20kgs	6937	96%
Leg	Number of lambs 21.10% yield and over	5681	78%
Loin	Number of lambs 13.60% yield and over	6740	93%
Shoulder	Number of lambs 16.40% yield and over	4701	65%
	Number of these lambs with combined Leg, Loin and Shoulder all above threshold	4019	55%

VS

Lamb Yield Summary - Bullock Range			
		No. Ccs	% of Kill
	Lambs supplied between 14.50kgs and 21.20kgs	6016	92%
Leg	Number of lambs 21.10% yield and over	5224	80%
Loin	Number of lambs 13.60% yield and over	6010	92%
Shoulder	Number of lambs 16.40% yield and over	4271	65%
	Number of these lambs with combined Leg, Loin and Shoulder all above threshold	3706	56%

Scanning Results		
	Spylaw	Bullock Range
MA Stud Ewes	191%	188%
Stud 2ths	177%	164%
Commercial Ewes	180%	171%

“Tough July, over 100 bales of baleage fed out in the snow”

- Clayton

Hard to compete when you have weather conditions like this!!!



“The autumn was a dry one. The 2 toothes struggled a bit and the weights were behind the eight ball, but when the grass doesn’t grow something’s gotta give”

- Morgan



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Romney Client Newsletter - Spring 2013



China – the buzz word

I was lucky enough to be offered the opportunity to join a corporate ASB fact finding trip to Shanghai, China earlier this year. The purpose of the trip was building relationships, experiences and insights. Our trip coincided with John’s Key’s visit over the Expo Week and I saw my first big grand prix in Shanghai – it was amazing. The roar of engines and many, many people put this little southern man right out of his short trousers!!

I was gob-smacked on arrival in Shanghai airport, by the organisation, efficiency and the order of how things tick. For a city of 24 million it was amazing how things flowed despite the zillions of pushbikes and pedestrians.

Everything we saw was clean and tidy and it was so different to how I expected even in the slums. I was amazed to see European food on all menus and everyone driving German cars, however, there was a constant smell of rice cooking, the water was brown and so was the air!!

We visited one sheep station with 15,000 sheep on 140 hectares, all housed inside. 80% of the feed supplement was grown on the farm produced by tractor and trailer and heaps of pitch forks, shovels and Chinese labourers. No front-end loader on the place!

China is 20% of the global population, 9% of arable land and 7% of global water – where does the New Zealand export market fit into to all this?

Reinventing the Sheep – Keep our woolsheds alive

Whatever way you look at it, we will turn anything impossible into success! Our strategy with our sheep and cattle is to move another step forward and keep one jump ahead to survive. We are all in control of our own destiny. At the end of August, we made an executive decision and moved 3 km up the road to 38 Smiths Road to “our house, our castle” and 95 acres (Trevor refers to it as Karen’s castle – teehee). It will probably take forever to unpack the boxes, eh Tony? Rome wasn’t built in a day and at this hectic time there are other things that demand attention. Shane Carter, our Manager, has moved into our home to make way for Morgan to put a man in his house.

The elusive target -



MAYBE

Lambs must be 18kg plus to probably achieve this.

We need to reinvent ourselves. We want to keep woolsheds alive and not be ruined in stone. Sheep farmers are now assigned to the hills as lowland is too dear for sheep. We are focused and moving with the right genetics to go into the next dimension, 18kg plus lambs and finished on the hill. Our passion is to keep the next generation farming.



From the Stud Manager's Desk

As we enjoy a very kind August and early September, we reflect back on what was a very dry summer/autumn here at Teviot Valley Station. With dry autumns, we all know it puts huge pressure on winter reserves and supplements, but fortunately apart from one week of the winter it was reasonably mild with very few frosts.

Ram lambs were shorn late January with two men on the board watching intensely as every lamb gets shorn making sure the ram lambs have the right attributes to take them through to a sound sire. This proving a worthy exercise, after just shearing the ram hoggets in late August and having very few culls.

In early February we took all fully recorded ram lambs to the run, where they were there for 14 weeks with only one drench in this period. We eye muscle scanned them out there in the first week of April.

We wintered 1200 Romney rams this year, consisting of 900 fully recorded and 300 semi-recorded of which 210 of these were leased out as ram lambs. All Romney rams were wintered in one mob on rape and grass until hogget shearing in late August and then onto a grass rotation.

As staff are a huge part and asset of any farming/stud operation, I commend Leon Peirce on his dedication and support that he gives me and the stud operation. After 2 years on the job, he has a sound understanding of what is involved in running a stud business.

Peters Farms have just taken on two Telford students for two weeks, in aid of giving them practical farming skills and experience in the sheep and beef industry. With a labour struggling industry, we look forward to giving these young boys hands on experience in their chosen career paths.

Our fourth Annual Bull Sale was held on 27th September, which was another success. We had 30 bulls catalogued this year in which 18 of them were by the sire Kaiwara 440, which has given us very pleasing results in the stud herd and commercial operations and is also showing pleasing results in the Australasian BreedPlan unit.

We look forward to a good season in the farming sector and will catch up at the Bull Sale or Ram Selling.

Shane

VISIT TO RANFURLY, VIA THE PIG ROUTE

On the 14th March, at the invitation from Grant and Sandra Geddes – Ranfurly, Shane Carter, Stud Manager for Peters Genetics, and Trevor Wilson – went on a property visit to view the Romney flock on the Geddes family farm at the Pig Route.

To ensure we didn't get lost the GPS was set up – after a 2hr 30min journey we arrived at the Pig Route. Shane was concerned in the area we were in. NO sheep could be seen for miles. Finally we stopped at a gate on instructions from our reliable GPS. Shane comments “you have got it wrong”, but high on the horizon was a woolshed. Okay at last, open the gate and see



Stud Master Shane was amazed, Romneys ready for shearing and close by a diesel generator for shearing power.



Grant and Sandra Geddes:

Property: 900 HA

Breeding Ewes: 2500

Ewe/Lambs: 500

Scanning this year 2th ewes 168%

M.A. ewes 162%

Result 147% unassisted lambing last year.

10 years with Peters Genetics

Conclusion: A GPS can find the destination but results of South Island hill country properties can be achieved, as endorsed by Grant and Sandra Geddes, with the introduction of the “TUFF” Peters romneys.

Enclosed is your ram order form, please fill in and return by 30th October. Cheers from the Peters Team.

THE FUTURE GENES YOUNGER GENERATION FIELD DAY

Earlier this year in April, Peters Genetics and the Grant Bros hosted a very successful Field Day. There was a good turnout of farmers to enjoy an informative farm tour and listen to a good array of speakers, including: Colin McKay, Zolvix Drench, Wayne Nichol - PGG Wrightson Seeds, Norman and Andrew Eason, Grant Cuff - CEO, Alliance Group.

We spent the day, firstly with Robert Grant looking at crop and checking out the ewe lambs which were in excellent condition. After lunch Cameron Grant led a further tour of their development programme, seeing more sheep mobs in excellent condition and he spoke of how Peters Genetics have helped with their increased lambing percentages.



On Going Trials

- Pelt thickness: Dick Harper, Pelt Supervision at Pukeuri plant, advised that Peters Genetics had above average pelt thickness on their weekly kill. Following on from this, the boys

are both working with Juliet Everett-Hincks, AgResearch, this lambing - measuring pelt thickness at birth, lamb birth weight and ewe mothering ability which should increase accuracy of pelt assessment prior to ram selection and help with survivability studies undertaken by AgResearch

TESTIMONIALS

Comments from Clients at the Grant Bros Field Day

- Rams from the Peters Genetics are lasting longer and the numbers of ewes mated per ram has increased. You could say this is not good for the Peters Groups because we are selling less rams to existing clients. However we can assure you, that this is only true because the quality and the longevity is forever improving from the on-going trait trials that we are involved in.
- New clients were more than happy with the number of quality rams that they had to pick from. This ratio will be maintained.



Telford Students Field Day

Back in June, we hosted 19 students from Telford Rural Polytechnic. The students had a go at stock judging and compared notes on their best selection of the rams and bulls without the use of SIL records. Shane Carter then presented the SIL cards to the group and explained the importance of both eye appraisal and performance records combined, being essential in the selection of sires. The students came from across New Zealand from Balclutha to Waipukurau. Interesting to note, that the girls way outshone the boys in their ability to stock judge!

Grass Roots to Footy Boots

Congratulations to the Heriot Rugby team, beating Clutha 52-24 to win the combined South and West Otago final. They then went on to win the Otago Countrywide final vs Maniototo 27-10.

