



MERRIGNEE

MERINO & POLL MERINO STUD

C.T.MERRIMAN & SON, BOOROWA NSW

Charlie, Pip, Jono, Anna and Digby look forward to welcoming clients and visitors to Little Range and to inspect the Merrignee Merino and Poll Merino one year old rams to be offered this spring.

The **Merrignee Open Day** inspection will be on Friday 30th September from 10am to 4pm and the **26th Annual On-Property Ram Sale** will be the following Friday – 7th October.

We thank clients for their support during the past 12 months and since we commenced Merrignee Merino and Poll Merino Stud and Merrignee Poll Hereford Stud on 1st July 1990.

Thank you to all buyers and under bidders who attended our 2015 On-Property Ram Sale and those who supported Merrignee at the August 2015 Hamilton (Vic) Sheepvention and the January 2016 GSSM (Canberra) sales.

At Merrignee's **25th Annual On-Property Ram Sale** held on Friday 9th October 2015, 78 rams sold from the 90 one year old, paddock reared rams offered, from superfine, fine and fine/medium wool type genetic families.

The average was \$1,280, with the top price of \$3,600 paid for Lot 1 – a superfine 16.5 micron ram by Grassy Creek 171 (A.I.).

TOP PHOTO: Lot 1, the top priced ram – sold for \$3,600. Held by Charlie with Steve Ridley, Elders Goulburn, who has been the auctioneer at all 25 Merrignee on-property ram sales, and Craig Pearsall, Elders Yass, who was the agent for the buyer, Euralie, Yass.



2015 / 2016 SHOW RESULTS

Dubbo Show August 2015

- Champion Superfine March Shorn Ewe

Boorowa Show February 2016

- Grand Champion Superfine Ewe
- Grand Champion Medium Ewe

BOTTOM PHOTO: Jono, Anna and Digby with the Champion Superfine March Shorn Ewe at the Dubbo National Merino Show, August 2015

UPCOMING SALES

HAMILTON SHEEPVENTION RAM SALE

Charlie and Pip will be taking five sale rams to Hamilton Sheepvention as usual.

Hamilton Sheepvention Merino Ram Sale on 2nd August 2016 is a high quality sale and Merrignee has been selling there since 1991. Merrignee rams will be available for **inspection** all day on **Monday 1st August** and before the **sale commences** on the **Tuesday, 10am**.

This year's sale team from Merrignee is a very good team of Stud Superfine and Fine wool merino rams. The group have low microns along with very good comfort factors, ranging from 99.8 to 99.9. Their fleece figures, along with low SDs and CVs, give buyers confidence of the genetic repeatability of our merino sires.



No. 1 Shearing tag A22205;
Station tag 055

Large framed ram, very square stance with plenty of fleece, and good cover through the underline and legs. This sire with his very correct body type, along with controlled fleece figures identifies him as potentially one who could improve bodyweights and frame size, while maintaining wool quality and definitely improving fleece weight. Sired by Grassy Creek 171 through our AI program which we declared very successful for the Merrignee Stud.

Micron 17.0; **SD** 2.3; **CV** 13.5;
ComF 99.8; **SpinF** 15.6; **Sire** Grassy Creek 171



No. 2 Shearing tag A22206;
Station tag 054

Large framed sire with good length of body, long staple length and clearly defined crimp. Wool cover is very good and plenty of fleece through the underline. This superfine sire has the wool quality along with frame size to improve superfine merino flocks.

Micron 15.8; **SD** 2.4; **CV** 15.2;
ComF 99.8; **SpinF** 14.7; **Sire** Grassy Creek 171



No. 3 Shearing tag 22204;
Station tag 141

A ram showing very stylish fleece character with distinctive crimp and soft handle. These wool qualities come from a supple skin type which will genetically pass onto his progeny. He has plenty of fleece weight and good body type, square stance along with good figures shows his genetic abilities as a merino sire for superfine flocks.

Micron 17.2; **SD** 2.4; **CV** 14.0;
ComF 99.9; **SpinF** 15.9; **Sire** Uniform family



No. 4 Shearing tag 22209;
Station tag 002

Another Grassy Creek blood ram showing very good body and size coupled with plenty of length, also very well covered with good belly wool giving a heavy cutting fleece. A fleece showing very good superfine style with high quality crimp definition giving this sire attributes to improve merino flocks.

Micron 17.6; **SD** 2.8; **CV** 15.9;
ComF 99.8; **SpinF** 16.5; **Sire** Grassy Creek 171



No. 5 Shearing tag A26039;
Station tag 038

Another very correct merino sire with good body size, square stance with high fleece weight and low micron. Style of fleece is also top grade with soft handle and defined crimp, with these combined qualities and excellent figures this sire could be a financial improver in fine wool merino sheep.

Micron 16.5; **SD** 2.7; **CV** 16.4;
ComF 99.9; **SpinF** 15.5; **Sire** Uniform family

TUESDAY 2nd AUGUST 2016

26th ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY RAM SALE



A group of Merrignee Merino & Poll Merino rams for sale in 2016 – all born in Aug/Sept 2015 and paddock reared, not shedded.

MERRIGNEE'S 26th ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY UNHOUSED RAM SALE *FRIDAY 7th OCTOBER 2016, at 1pm*

90 AUG–SEPT 2015 DROP RAMS ON OFFER

90 twelve month old rams will be offered by auction, commencing at 1pm (under cover). Most family lines bred at Merrignee from superfine to fine to fine-medium wool types and bloodlines will be offered.

Each ram will have individual fleece figures (taken within six weeks of the sale) for micron, SD, CV, spinning fineness. Bodyweights to be done closer to the sale date and the rams were shorn on 13th April 2016 for the greasy fleece weight percentages.

PREVIEW OPEN DAY FRIDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2016, 10am – 4pm

Held on-property at Little Range, this preview day gives clients and others who are interested in merino sheep (all welcome) to come along and inspect the Merrignee's sale rams at their leisure.

PRIVATE INSPECTION BY APPOINTMENT

Alternatively private inspections of the sale rams prior to the on-property sale can be arranged by contacting Charlie or Jono.



Shorn Merrignee Stud ewes, due to lamb about 10th August 2016.

2016 SHEARING RESULTS

MERRIGNEE STUD 2 YEAR OLD EWES

SUPERFINE wool ewes averaged **17.3 microns** and **5.3 kgs fleece weight**

FINE wool ewes averaged **17.5 microns** and **5.5 kgs fleece weight**

MEDIUM wool ewes averaged **18.2 microns** and **6.1 kgs fleece weight**

POLL 2 year old ewes averaged **18.3 microns** and **5.6 kgs fleece weight**

THOUGHTS FROM CHARLIE

MERRIGNEE GENETICS / BREEDING

The 2015 drop rams and ewes are all doing very well and surviving the very welcome rain. We are really looking forward to classing time for this group of young stud merino sheep.

Our AI group of 2015 drop rams and ewes by the *Greenland 'Kato'* sire are a progeny group that look to have very good body type with good size. After the shearing test we know they have good fleece weights too. The sire, *Greenland 'Kato'*, had a wool cut of 16.5 kgs at the 2014 Sydney Royal Show and was named Junior Champion Ram of the Show.

Another AI group for the 2015 drop was by *Grassy Creek Poll 'Henry'* and this large framed and high quality wool ram has been highly regarded in the showing over several years, winning many Champion ribbons and we expect to get stud sires from this genetic cross.

These sires were selected for their fleece weight and frame size but they also have a special wool type as their show awards attribute to. As mentioned before, this drop are a top grade of young merino rams and we look forward to preparing them for our 2016 on-property ram sale.

The sire used in the 2016 AI program was *Glenpaen 'Magic'*, who cut 17.5 kgs of fleece at 18.3 microns and was awarded Grand Champion Ram at Dubbo Show in August 2015.

We have also brought back the excellent *Merrignee/Merryville* sire *'Brilliant Example 10th'*, who was an absolute Champion sire over many years, and we really are looking forward to these lambs arriving. The other ram used is a *Merrignee Ringmaster Poll* sire *'Willie O'* and those clients who remember this ram will know of his very good frame size with quality superfine wool.

WOOL MARKET

Most merino growers would be very pleased with the wool market as it draws to the recess from sales, coupled with the price for mutton. Merino farm enterprises are showing profitable outcomes.

The superfine and true fine wool types have still some price rises to achieve yet, but with Merrignee merino sheep and their ability to have quality wool types, good fleece weights and heavy body weights we, and our clients, have the ability to be highly viable financially in the current market values.

Here at Little Range we believe higher prices and stronger demand for superfine and fine wool types is something we can look forward to (depending on world finances). At the 2016 International Wool Textile Organisations conference held in Sydney during April Dr Clint Lavrent spoke of the premium market requirements throughout the world. These high end markets are looking for better quality products and high quality wool garments are a part of the desired garment mix. In his opening comment Lavrent said, "shifts in global demographics over the next 10 years will really work in favour of the wool industry". He noted that the world's premium consumers are primarily located in the three regions that also dominate the total clothing purchasing market, specifically North America, Western Europe and affluent Asia (Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore and Australia). He explained that 85% of premium consumers are located in these regions. China at this stage has only 1% of their population in this market group, but over the next decade this purchasing group will grow by around 20 million people, to become 6% of this premium group.

AWI are well aware of this and their ability to target these geographic locations will have high marketing priority. To

help achieve these priorities AWI have opened a wool resource centre in Hong Kong. This centre will showcase Australian wool and help chain partners develop, produce and market woollen products. As well as being a premium market location, Hong Kong is close enough to other premium areas to promote wool products to these very important and influential consumers.

A product already out in the market place is *Woolmark Gold*. This brand recognises the high quality weaving and knitting of Australia's finest micron wools, encompassing the best British and Italian spinners and weavers. This symbol of the manufacturing and design excellence of Australian superfine wool was recently showcased at Shanghai Fashion Week in the form of luxury mens suiting and jackets, providing another link to the increasing purchasing power of China.

It has also been announced by New England Wool that a new superfine wool contract will be announced in August by their specialised Italian woollen mills.

AWI MERINO LIFETIME PRODUCTIVITY PROJECT

In the area of animal (merino) research area AWI has started the *Merino Lifetime Productivity Project*. This nine year project is to collect data to evaluate lifetime merino productivity.

Expected out of this project is information that can assist breeders to assess their merino sheep and identify which ones can produce a high value fleece with good weight for micron and crimp definition, high fertility turning off the progeny at required weights and yield at an early age.

The trial will look at and evaluate a wide range of selection systems, such as ASBV's, indexes, geonomics and visual sheep classers, to ascertain if these adequately select for lifetime performance in the commercial merino sheep systems. This will also help determine the cost benefits of measuring multiple adult traits through the merino sheep lifetime and should provide a range of information for merino ram breeders.

The sires used will be specially selected to represent a range of breeding strategies, philosophies and merino types to achieve the attributes affecting lifetime performance.

The sites (properties) where the merino sheep will be located are Balmoral in Victoria with a fine wool ewe base, Pingelly in West Australia with fine/medium and meat type ewes and Temora in NSW with a fine/medium ewe base. The project will also look at a high summer rainfall site with fine wool ewes.

Over eight joinings, the project is expected to use 135 sires and amass approximately 4,000 ewe progeny to assess for their lifetime productivity. We are looking forward to the information this trail will develop over the years, particularly in relation to which types of merino sheep produce a lamb each year without dropping away in other productive areas.



Margaret and Hugh Roxburgh

VALE: HUGH CRICHTON ROXBURGH CLEAR CREEK, YOUNG, 22nd MARCH 2016

We are sad to report the death of Hugh, at the age of 88, after a lifetime of dedication to the land in the Young district and to the merino industry. Although Hugh and his wife Margaret retired into Young in 2011, almost every day Hugh would drive out to the farm to see what he could do and just enjoy the land he always loved.

Hugh and his son, John have had a long association with Charlie and his father, Bruce, and they both have been pleased and honoured to have the job of classing the Clear Creek Merino Stud for well over 30 years.

Hugh and John have always shown great interest, support and encouragement in whatever we are doing here at Little Range with both our merino studs, Merrignee and Koonwarra. As testament to that, they were the top priced buyers at Merrignee's 2014 on-property ram sale and their photo was on the front of last year's Merrignee Brochure No. 26.

We wish John and his wife Lindel and their sons, Ian, Cameron and Edward, all the very best in the years ahead in whatever they do in the future, be it continuing their farming and merino stud, Clear Creek, and their many other interests and talents.

We thank John and Lindel sincerely for all their dedication and hard work to the development and success of the annual South West Slopes Merino Field Day over many years. Now held in the grounds of St Clements Retreat, Galong on the first Thursday in September, SWSMFD is attended by a huge number of merino studs as well as other primary industry exhibitors.

Pip grew up next door to the Roxburgh and Crichton families, and they are life long family friends over a number of generations. We thank the Roxburgh family for their wonderful friendship, which we have really enjoyed over so many decades.

Our sincere condolences and sympathies to Hugh's wife Margaret and their children, John, Jane, Ann and Sue and all their extended families.

STABLE GENETICS

20 month old stud ewes fleece test averages; shorn in May each year.

(Results of the last ten years are shown, although we have been testing each year since we commenced in 1990)

YEAR	GROUP	MICRON	KGS
2016	Superfines	17.3	5.3
	Fines	17.5	5.5
	Mediums	18.2	6.1
	Polls	18.3	5.6
2015	Superfines	17.6	6.7
	Fines	18.1	6.8
	Mediums	19.3	7.7
	Polls	18.5	6.4
2014	Superfines	17.4	5.2
	Fines	17.4	5.4
	Mediums	17.8	5.9
	Polls	17.6	5.0
2013	Superfines	16.8	5.6
	Fines	16.9	5.8
	Mediums	18.1	6.6
	Polls	18.4	5.6
2012	Superfines	17.2	5.17
	Fines	18.1	5.96
	Mediums	18.7	6.44
	Polls	18.3	5.68

YEAR	GROUP	MICRON	KGS
2011	Superfines	17.9	6.00
	Fines	18.1	6.38
	Mediums	18.5	6.78
	Polls	18.2	6.57
2010	Superfines	17.3	5.9
	Fines	17.9	6.4
	Mediums	18.3	6.6
2009	Superfines	16.6	5.2
	Fines	17.1	5.9
	Mediums	17.2	6.0
2008	Superfines	17.4	6.2
	Fines	18.3	6.3
	Mediums	18.6	7.3
2007	Superfines	16.55	4.92
	Fines	16.70	5.46
	Mediums	17.39	5.96

We have decided to list the Polls separately as we are concentrating on building up our Poll Merino genetics.

REMINDERS FOR 2016 / 2017

HAMILTON: Merrignee Stud will be offering five rams at Hamilton Sheepvention on Tuesday 2nd August.

SOUTH WEST SLOPES MERINO FIELD DAY 2016:

Merrignee Merino and Poll Merino Stud will have a display at the SWS Merino Field Day at St Clements, Galong on Thursday 1st September from 10am.

OPEN DAY: The 90 rams to be offered at the annual on-property ram sale will be available for inspection on Friday 30th September, 10am – 4pm.

ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY RAM SALE: 90 August – September 2015 drop rams will be on offer on Friday 7th October 2016. Auction starts at 1pm.

GSSM: Merrignee will be offering rams at the Great Southern Supreme Merino Show and Sale (GSSM) at Canberra Showground on Monday 23rd January 2017.

GUDAIR VACCINATION: Merrignee Merino Stud has been vaccinating with Gudair since November 2002. All Merrignee lambs born since, and including, 2002 have been vaccinated as lambs. Therefore Merrignee can be safely called an Approved Vaccinated Stud.

BRUCELLOSIS / FOOTROT: Merrignee is accredited Brucellosis Free CW 90/33 and vendor declaration Footrot Free (as there is no official Footrot Free accreditation available via the NSW Agriculture).



Keith Coble and Digby with a Merrignee lamb by Glenpaen Magic.

FLOCK RAM SALES

COMMENCE MID OCTOBER 2016, BY APPOINTMENT

Flock rams are from the same drop as those to be offered at the 26th Annual Ram Sale.

Contact Charlie or Jono to discuss your needs and arrange a private inspection.

2015 – 2016 flock ram prices will be the same as previous years with two price groups: \$880 and \$550 (GST inclusive).

MERRIGNEE SEMEN SIRES

SEMEN PRICE
\$50 PER DOSE (+ GST)

Merrignee Merino and Poll Merino Studs have a number of semen sires available. The Merrignee sires that we offer semen from are tried and proven sires.

GSSM ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE

CANBERRA SHOWGROUNDS (EPIC): SATURDAY 21st JANUARY – MONDAY 23rd JANUARY 2017

Show section at EPIC (Canberra Showground) from 1pm, Saturday 21st January – 5pm, Sunday 22nd January 2017

70th Annual GSSM Stud Merino Ram Sale at EPIC on Monday 23rd January 2017 with the auction commencing at 11am

GSSM ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY FIELD DAY

FRIDAY 20th JANUARY 2017
LITTLE RANGE, BOOROWA, 9am – 5pm

There will be show sheep, GSSM sale rams, stud ewes and their progeny and stud sires from Merrignee, Merrignee Poll and Koonwarra Merino Studs available for inspection.



On 13th March 2016 we had the wonderful excitement of welcoming the gorgeous Jack Westhoff into our lives, the first child for our daughter Karina and her husband Matt. Karina is still helping us with our publications, design and marketing.

CHARLIE, PIP, JONO & ANNA MERRIMAN

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ABN 79 841 445 104 FLOCK NO M4417 POLL FLOCK NO 1100



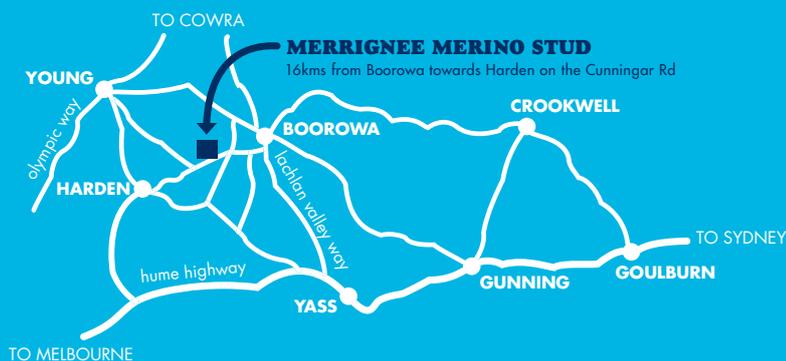
Merrignee Stud Poll Hereford cows.

MERRIGNEE POLL HEREFORD STUD

Poll Hereford two year old bulls are available now from the Merrignee Stud, sired by our resident bull Whim Park Freight train.

These young bulls have a good length of body, correct feet, eye pigmentation and have plenty of meat and body weight.

The photo of the Merrignee stud cows tell the story of what we wish to achieve with our cattle. Calving each year with a natural doing ability which includes good shaped udders giving plenty of milk. These traits transfer into an easy doing herd which produces meaty steers and bulls with fertile females who basically look after themselves.



We would really appreciate receiving an email from all our clients so we can put together a comprehensive list of client emails so we can easily and quickly keep Merrignee clients informed.

Our email address is merriman@merrignee.com.au.

Also we would appreciate if clients would let us know via email if your contact details and addresses are incorrect.