



**DORPER SHEEP SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.**

# **NEWS BULLETIN**

**MARCH 2007**

## **NEWS BULLETIN**

The Dorper News will be produced on a regular basis to keep members and regions updated on the Society activities. These will be circulated electronically where possible to members with email addresses and mailed to members who do not have email access.

## **DERMATOSPARARIS**

Members are advised that the DSSA has entered into a voluntary eradication OD arrangement with the Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute for subsidised batch testing of Ovine Dermatospararis. The cost of batch testing through the Society will be charged at \$36.80 per sample.

Any member who wishes to deal on a direct basis with the Institute can do so but the testing rate for your testing will be \$51.70 per sample.

Members who intend to use the subsidised testing format are asked to contact the Secretariat to advise on how many samples will be tested, a batch of sample envelopes and the relevant form work will then be mailed to you. Upon completion of sample collection the samples are to be mailed to the Secretariat where they will be checked. Samples will then be forwarded to the Elizabeth Macarthur Institute for testing.

The results will be forwarded back to the Secretariat where they will be recorded, the member involved will then be forwarded the results plus the invoice. Results data recorded by the Secretariat will be available for any member to check on the Dermatospararis status of an individual animal. Other than members checking an animal status, reports remain confidential to the office.

Please find data on how the test operates and the relative forms attached.

A letter clarifying the benefits of OD testing and supporting the role the Elizabeth Macarthur Institute has had in its development is also attached.

The DSSA Board has accepted a motion that all animals entered in future National Sales must be tested OD negative.

## REGISTRATIONS

I advise members that the Registrations can now be conducted online. Please find below data on how to conduct online registrations.

I urge as many members as possible to do their registrations online as this will take the pressure off ABRI and provide a faster turn around of registrations and certificates.

Please find below specific instruction for logging onto the Dorper database:

1. Open Web Browser (open internet) - see picture below
2. Go to the following address - <https://abri.une.edu.au/online/cgi-bin/i4.dll?1=DORP&2=lo>
3. Enter your Dorper member number in the place that asks for Member ID e.g. WD0001 or D099 - do not enter your Lamplan flock code here.
4. The first time you log on you will be required to choose a NEW PASSWORD. To change your password, and your NEW password in the two fields below - when you choose a new password, it must be a minimum of 6 characters.
5. Click the signon button.

### Dorper Sheep Society of Australia Inc

Signon

#### *Authorisation Required*

Members wishing to use this site to submit online registrations will initially require authorization. To obtain such authorization and an initial password, contact The Society by e-mailing your request, including your name/address/membership number to; [dorpersheep@rahssa.org.au](mailto:dorpersheep@rahssa.org.au)

Authorised members wishing to access this site must provide a Member I.D. and a valid Password.

* Member I.D.:	<input type="text"/>
* Password:	<input type="text"/>
To change your password, enter your Member I.D. and current password above and your new password below.	
New Password:	<input type="text"/>
New Password Validation:	<input type="text"/>

As a result of the rule changes that came into effect on the 1st January 2007, new simpler registration/transfer forms have been produced. Please find copies attached. These forms can be downloaded from the website and are available in both in word and excel formats.

In future you are only required to list the sire and dams' registration numbers when registering an animal. **PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU ENTER THE CORRECT REGISTRATION NUMBERS.** Please continue to use the the existing (old) forms when registering progeny resulting from South African embryo's.

## **T**RANSFERS

**I REMIND MEMBERS THAT IF YOU HAVE SOLD A REGISTERED ANIMAL IT IS THE VENDOR RESPONSIBILITY TO FORWARD THE EXISTING REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE PLUS FEES BACK TO THE SECRETARIAT.** Please also note that the you need to fill out the back of the form with the new owners details plus you must sign the form. ABRI will then issue a new certificate to the new owner and remove the old certificate from circulation. Unfortunately transfers can not be conducted online at this stage.

Members who sell animals are now required to transfer ownership within 60 days from the date of sale.

## **U**PGRADE DORPERS

I advise that recently there has some confusion between “full blood” and “pure bred” Dorper terminology. This has come about due to prospective buyers travelling to view animals advertised as purebred Dorper thinking they will be viewing and possibly purchasing pure Dorpers or “full bloods” only to find that they are graded up animals.

To eliminate this problem the Board have decided to refer to all upgraded animals as “Percentage Dorpers”. All reference to “upgraded pure” to be eliminated.

Please find the Percentage Dorper upgrade criteria and registration forms attached.

All animals with South African bloodline will be referred to as “Full Bloods”. The terminology of “Full Blood” and “Purebreed” will now be one and the same thing.

## **L**AMBPLAN WORKSHOPS FOR BEGINNERS

Saturday - 17 March 2007

Come and learn the basics of understanding the Lambplan system, its implementation and advantages to your operation, whether you are a stud or commercial producer. All are welcome.

The one day workshop is being hosted for members, their clients and friends by Liz Johnson, Wingara White Dorpers, Parkes NSW. Lunch will be provided at a small fee.

Please contact Liz - [wingarastud@bigpond.com](mailto:wingarastud@bigpond.com) or phone (02) 6866 1244.

## **N**ATIONAL SALE

The DSSA Board has discussed the following aspects to be implemented.

### **1. Order of Sale**

The order has been altered so that the Dorper and White Dorper will be sold in blocks. The 2007 Sale will see the Dorper start followed by the White Dorper, this order will reverse in 2008. Rams will lead followed by the ewes.

### **2. Body Weights**

In past years the body weight requirement for rams was 70 kilograms, this has been altered to the following for the 2007 Sale.

Milk Tooth	60kg
Two Tooth	70kg
Four Tooth & over	80kg

### 3. **Sale Transfers**

The DSSA will from now on effect the transfers of all animals sold at the National Sale. To do this all vendors will be required to forward the original certificates to the office in conjunction with the entry forms.

### 4. **Dates**

Dubbo National Sale	11 September 2007
WA National Sale	9 October 2007

## **2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This years meeting will be conducted in Western Australia on the 8th October 2007, the day prior to their National Sale. Please note this in your diary.

## **16 DIGIT UNIQUE IDENTIFIER**

Members are advised that ABRI will be placing a 16 digit unique identifier onto the registration certificates. This will be in addition to the current registration number.

The use of a 16 digit identifier will provide a link to Lambplan and assist with any Dermatosparris testing/reference that may be required. Under this system the breed codes will be 40 for Dorper and 47 for White Dorper.

To explain the 16 digit identifier - if my stud was WD900 and I was registering a ram 0057 born in 2005 the unique identifier would read 4709002005050057

Breed Code 47

Flock Code 0900

Year of Birth 2005

Universal Sheep ID 050057 (this comprises the last two digits for the year of birth the last four are the tag number).

## **2008 - WORLD DORPER CHAMPIONSHIPS - UPINGTON - SOUTH AFRICA**

Members are advised that this event will be conducted from the Tuesday 29th April through to Friday 3rd May 2008.

Tertia & Ken Butcher will be organising a post show tour visiting Dorper and White Dorper breeders in South Africa and Namibia.

If you wish to take part please contact the Butcher's Travelscene Agency Hay NSW on 02 6993 4444.

# Forums to help sheep producers ‘bounce back’

Sheep producers will arm themselves with ways to get their cash flow back on track and their farms ready to flourish when the season breaks by attending a unique series of upcoming drought forums.

The ‘Bounce Back’ forums will give lamb and wool producers simple and practical advice on how to plan now for a speedy recovery from drought – keep in mind, financial and cash-flow implications.

A joint initiative of Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) and Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), the four ‘Bounce Back’ forums will be held at:

\* Parkes, NSW – Thursday March 29.

\* Jamestown, SA – Monday April 16.

\* Ararat, Vic – Wednesday April 18.

\* Corowa, NSW – Friday April 20.

Lu Hogan, AWI program manager for Sustainable Production Systems, says it is imperative producers who have carried sheep through the drought, are armed with the tools to ensure their profitability is ramped up as quickly as possible when the rain comes.

“There is a range of techniques including, rebuilding flock numbers through maximising reproduction, and rejuvenating pastures quickly and cost effectively, that are essential tools for the successful sheep producer,” Ms Hogan says.

“Speakers at the Bounce Back forums will share practical advice that producers can hear today and act on tomorrow – many requiring little or no additional cost.”

She said sheep have proved to be an important risk management tool for mixed farming enterprises coping with drought; “basically they still grow wool but with varied quality,” she said.

Alongside the expert speakers will be local producers who will share their own experiences of surviving the drought. They will explain their plans going forward.

Ms Hogan says producers have a sense of optimism about better times ahead, but it is still a time of stress for many.

AWI/MLA Bounce Back Forums are being conducted with partners Landmark and Elders, and the support of the Department of Primary Industries in each state.

\* The forums are free, but producers need to reserve their seats by phoning 1800 070 099 .