



Poll Merino Flock 60 1279  
White Suffolk Flock 23 0753

### **New England Merino Field Days**

Sat 14 Jan 2012 - at Petali

### **“Bred Well, Fed Well” Workshop**

Wed 25 Jan 2012 - at Petali

### **Armidale Ram Sale**

Wed 1 Feb 2012 - 2 Poll Merino Rams

### **17<sup>th</sup> On property Ram Sale**

Thurs 2 Feb 2012 - 60 Poll Merino & Merino

22 White Suffolk

(Catalogues & ASBV's at <http://www.petali.com.au>)

## **Summer 2012 Newsletter**



090220 for sale at Armidale

### **Sheep Industry is “on fire”, pity about Europe**

This year the season is excellent right across Australia & it has to be said that the sheep industry is “on fire”. It is rare to have the combination of good seasonal conditions & a low sheep flock. We deserve it & despite some bad weather during lambings, flock numbers appear to be gradually recovering. Most people have worked out how many merino ewes need to be mated for a sustainable flock, yet Prime Lamb matings are still growing because of the cash-flow benefits. The re-emergence of European debt problems has reminded us that optimising production per hectare & having a low cost of production (which usually means running more sheep) are always important. The balance between wool & meat traits has changed for good & that means increased selection for growth, fertility & disease resistance as well as that exquisite fibre that we all love.

### **Petali Polls looking good for Armidale Ram Sale - Wed 1 February 2012**

Petali will offer 2 Poll merino rams at the Armidale Ram Sale, one day before the on-property sale:

090220 is a big framed, 17.8 Micron, 2.5 SD, 14.0 CV, fine wool ram by Leahcim Poll 050154

090390 is a heavy cutting, 17.3 Micron, 3.3 SD, 19.1 CV, superfine ram by Lorelmo Poll 060830

### **How fast can you expect significant change in Worm Resistance (WEC) - 2 matings?**

One of our potential Stud sires for 2012 is Petali Poll 100310, a free & plain bodied ram with an impressive YWEC of - 63, YWT of + 5, plus pleasing muscle + 1.8 YEMD. Very nice & will be a handy option to use over some ewes that may need improvement in those traits. Would you believe we discovered his Grandsire (top outside sire but untested at purchase) had a nasty YWEC of + 66. It seems amazing to be able to change traits so quickly, & it can only be done with some powerful female genetics, accurate testing & good pedigree records. Having ASBV technology helps too!

### **How fast can you reduce Breech Wrinkle (BWR) - how about 2 matings?**

The top ram of the 2010 drop, Petali Poll 100549, is another example of rapid & positive change in just 2 matings. 100549 is a growthy & crimped white woolled ram with high performance & balance over the key traits. His EBWR (Early Breech Wrinkle) is only 0, which is good, but his Grandsire (a leading outside sire) we now know was actually + 0.8, which is carrying too much wrinkle for modern merinos. Our best sheep for EBWR are now around -1.0 so watch this space...

*PS We plan to offer 100549 for sale at Armidale Ram Sale in 2013.*

### **Petali White Suffolks secure new sire Farrer 100132 for \$8,000**

We purchased Farrer 100132 by Pollambi 072025 (PD) for \$8,000 in September. He will be mated to the 2011 drop ewe lambs in March/April & is an excellent outcross for the high performing Farrer 74 infused flock. The 2010 drop White Suffolk ewes lambed very well this year with few problems. Also purchased was Farrer 100197, an excellent son of Farrer 090095. For sale this year are easy lambing sons of Farrer 080017 & Farrer 080022. Semen is available from Farrer 080017 & Farrer 100132 for \$30 + GST.



New WS Sire at Petali



### **High Performance Genetics**



Martin & Cheryl Oppenheimer 02 6777 2124 0413 580 040 <http://www.petali.com.au>