

2013 Events Calendar:

GullenGamble Merinos can be seen at:

- Sat 3 August**— Nyngan Ag Expo @ Nyngan Showground
- * Sat 10 August** - Bathurst Ram Expo @ Bathurst Showground
- * Tues/Wed 27/28 August** - National Merino Sheep Show @ Dubbo Showground
- * Thurs 5 September** - South West Slopes Stud Merino Field Day @ St Clements Retreat, Galong NSW
- * Tues 17 September—**
GullenGamble Merinos 15th Annual On-Property Ram Sale.
Inspection from 10am
Sale at 1pm

Grade rams available from 17th September

The Kerin Family

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GullenGamble Merinos – The Quiet Achievers

Welcome to our 2013 newsletter and we hope that all clients, friends and fellow producers are in good health and spirits—which would have been helped by the widespread rain across our areas, as well as other states over the month of June.

Despite this recent rainfall, 2013 continues to be a challenge for all of us on the land, but with the fall of the Australian dollar, the drop in interest rates and with commodity prices appearing to be looking up; meat and wool are heading in a positive direction.

Thank you to all bidders, under-bidders and successful buyers at our 14th Annual On-Property Ram Sale last year. We always enjoy the day starting out with clients' inspection of our sale rams and then ultimately the auction and a celebration afterwards. Last year, we offered 150 horned and poll merino rams with 137 of them being sold at an average price of \$1,351 proving yet again, that top quality rams can be affordable for everyone. The top price of \$3,800 was paid twice; by repeat-client Bruce Cleaver (Nyngan) and also new clients Lee and

Julie Browne (Sally's Flat), and we thank all of you for your support. We feel that these prices indicate that clients saw a fairly even line of rams that they can use under varied conditions and everyone we spoke with after the sale was very happy with their purchases. The 2012 sale saw us welcome new clients to the Stud and we remind them as well as all current clients; that we are always available to speak with regarding any positives or indeed any concerns you may have with the rams you have purchased from us. We also offer a free classing service to current clients, and a number of clients have either Mark or Brett visit them to inspect their rams, the ewes they are breeding from and any progeny that have been produced. They also enjoy being invited out to different properties during shearing; to inspect the sheep and wool our clients are producing.

The last twelve months at GullenGamble have been exciting and rewarding and have seen us uphold the

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direction we want to follow. Firstly, we made the decision to leave the SRS® System to concentrate on classing our own sheep; to preserve and further advance the wool, carcase and fertility traits that we are known and respected for. Our long standing breeding goal of producing Merinos that are 'The Right Balance Between Wool and Meat' is not something we take lightly, and we will continue to elevate this balance to benefit both our clients and our own sheep.

Along with the traditional techniques of visual selection and running the rams and ewes through a classing box, there are a number of modern tools available to us and we know it is important to mix the old with the new to achieve "The Right Balance ..." in the GullenGamble Merinos. We won't have to just focus on the industry fads at any one particular time. With the aid of electronic tags and data collection, KoolCollect software and ASBV's through MerinoSelect and Genomics; we can select and advance key traits and achieve rapid genetic gains for us and our clients. Also, to speed up the rate of genetic gain and intergenerational gap, we have been joining our ewe-lambs at 10 months of age with terrific conception rates. We are currently using MerinoSelect ASBV's to improve and maintain the following traits:

- Fleece weight
- Staple strength
- Staple length
- Micron (maintain at 19.6)
- Reproduction (identify multiples)
- Body weight (PWWT, YWWT, maintain current adult weight, increase early growth rates allowing to sell or join early)
- Eye Muscle
- Genetic fat depth
- Scrotal circumference

As Brett mentioned last year: *"If you can't measure it, you can't monitor it"*

The second big change this year is the **change of our ram sale date**. We have brought it forward a couple of weeks from our usual October long weekend Friday to **Tuesday 17th September** and we are offering 150 rams for selection on the day. As always, inspection is from 10am and the sale will start at 1pm. Refreshments will be available on the day and we will also have available approximately 300 grade rams available for selection and purchase after the sale. We will take this opportunity to remind you that any rams you purchase are guaranteed for fertility and structural soundness until they have completed their first joining. If there are any problems; we will replace the ram or credit you up to their value at auction. We look forward to seeing you when we are out and about in the next few months.

Regards

Mark, Kym, Brett, Nathan and Laura



2012 top priced rams being held by Brett Kerin and repeat client Bruce Cleaver (Nyngan) and also new client Julie Browne and son Harrison (Sally's Flat) with AWN agent Brett Cooper.

DIARY

**15th Annual On-Property
Ram Sale**
Tuesday 17th September
2013

Inspection from 10am—Auction at 1pm

Offering 150 top-quality **horned** and poll merino rams for sale

OUR SIRES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

GullenGamble 110028

A real bale filler, in the top 10% of the breed for clean fleece weight %. 110028 carries a power of deeply crimped, very white wool with plenty of length and density on a very deep and well put together carcass. A big robust ram for all ewe types.

Birth Date: May 2011

Sire: GullenGamble 090086

Price: Semen Available \$40/ dose + GST



| Test Date | Micron | SD | CV | CF | BW | YCFC | YWT | YFAT | YEMD |
|-----------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 08/08/12 | 21.3 | 3.6 | 17.0 | 99.0% | 127 | +21 | +4.9 | -0.4 | -0.3 |
| 04/07/13 | 19.3 | 3.8 | 19.7 | 99.8% | | | | | |

MERINO ASBV'S—04/07/2013

| | YWT | AWT | YEMD | YCFW | YFD | YDCV | FP | FP+ | MP | MP+ | DP | DP+ |
|----------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| GG110028 | 5.2 70% | 4.4 60% | -0.4 65% | 21.0 55% | -0.4 76% | -0.7 62% | 121 29% | 127 31% | 142 30% | 149 31% | 131 25% | 143 28% |
| Averages | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 7.9 | -1.1 | -0.7 | 121 | 125 | 131 | 135 | 123 | 132 |



GullenGamble 110472

This ram has an outstanding wool on a free growing productive skin. He was a standout at a young age showing wonderful bone and structure as well as a super white deeply crimped fibre. 110472 shows all the attributes we are breeding for.

Birth Date: May 2011

Sire: Leahcim 445

Price: Semen Available \$40/ dose + GST

| Test Date | Micron | SD | CV | CF | BW | YCFC | YWT | YFAT | YEMD |
|-----------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 08/08/12 | 17.4 | 2.7 | 15.6 | 100% | 126 | +18 | +6.1 | -0.6 | -0.2 |
| 04/07/13 | 17.3 | 2.7 | 16.4 | 99.5% | | | | | |

MERINO ASBV'S—04/07/2013

| | YWT | AWT | YEMD | YCFW | YFD | YDCV | YSL | YSS | FP | FP+ | MP | MP+ | DP | DP+ |
|----------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| GG110472 | 6.1 71% | 5.4 62% | -0.3 66% | 19.2 63% | -1.3 79% | -0.5 56% | 12.9 56% | -0.8 52% | 128 32% | 133 35% | 153 31% | 158 33% | 140 26% | 147 29% |
| Averages | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 7.9 | -1.1 | -0.7 | 4.2 | 0.4 | 121 | 125 | 131 | 135 | 123 | 132 |

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GullenGamble 110428

110428 is in the top 10% of the breed for both YWT and YCFW%. The complete package – the right balance between wool and meat! He carries a super soft, super white wool of 18.3 micron on a wrinkle free productive skin. A tremendous fibre on a even better skin.

Birth Date: May 2011

Sire: Leahcim 445

Price: Semen Available \$40/ dose + GST

| Test Date | Micron | SD | CV | CF | BW | YCFC | YWT | YFAT | YEMD |
|-----------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|------|
| 08/08/12 | 18.3 | 2.5 | 13.9 | 99.5% | 130 | +21 | +7.1 | -0.7 | -0.8 |
| 04/07/13 | 15.7 | 2.4 | 15.3 | 100% | | | | | |



MERINO ASBV'S—04/07/2013

| | YWT | AWT | YEMD | YCFW | YFD | YDCV | YSL | YSS | FP | FP+ | MP | MP+ | DP | DP+ |
|----------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| GG110428 | 7.2 71% | 7.2 62% | -0.9 66% | 21.9 63% | -0.4 79% | 0.0 69% | 13.8 56% | -1.1 52% | 119 32% | 122 35% | 147 31% | 150 33% | 139 26% | 140 29% |
| Averages | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.3 | 7.9 | -1.1 | -0.7 | 4.2 | 0.4 | 121 | 125 | 131 | 135 | 123 | 132 |



Sohnic 110954

Sohnic 954 was purchased from Sohnic Merinos in Victoria. 954 was purchased privately from Sohnic's stud reserves after seeing him on display at the 2012 Marnoo Field Days. He shows faultless structure and carries a high density super white wool on a free-growing skin. A real impact sire of the future!

Birth Date: May 2011

Sire: Sohnic 16

Price: Semen Available \$40/ dose + GST

No ASBV's available at the moment

| Test Date | Micron | SD | CV | CF | BW | YCFC | YWT | YFAT | YEMD |
|-----------|--------|-----|------|-------|-----|------|-----|------|------|
| 08/07/12 | 17.1 | 2.7 | 15.7 | 99.6% | 108 | | | 7mm | 39mm |
| 04/07/13 | 15.0 | 2.8 | 15.3 | 100% | | | | | |

We are still trying to get email addresses from clients and friends – for quicker and easier communication between us and yourselves. Please take a minute or so to send us your email address for our database. Thank you!