

meatup FORUM

For the latest in red meat R&D

Getting started with and implementation of eID

Chris Lymn

'Lymn Farms' Wudinna

Why did we implement eID on Lymn Farms

- Theory: Good animals eat the same food as poor animals – lets identify good animals and keep them/multiply them...genetic improvement
- Previously individually numbered tags –time consuming with poor accuracy
- Wanted greater pressure on the ewe side of the ‘genetic equation’...frustrated with how to select ewe ‘future breeders’

Genetics 101

I'm not Ferg but:

- Genetics X Environment = Phenotype (*what we see in the yards*)
- We have only two levers to pull in managing genetics because it takes a ram and a ewe to make lambs.....
- We spend a lot of time and \$\$ on the ram side of the equation. Studying *ASBVs and ram sales booklet, bidding against Goldmine Hill*
- We realised that without pressure on the ewe side of the equation we are not maximising genetic gain.



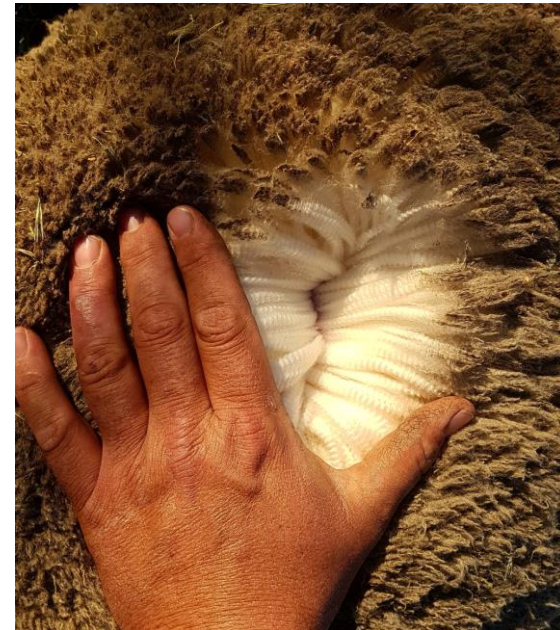
Selecting ewe future breeders with eID

- Motto: Measure to manage...
- Natural bias when in a classing race is for bigger plainer sheep – but are they the keepers? Without careful **measurement** gains are slow and fraught with danger.
- Individual recording allows measurement and begins ‘lifetime ewe data’, eID is a tool to make data collection easy and accurate.



Here's how we do it


- Definitely not the only way.....just how we do it.
- A few years of refining to ensure shearers are not inconvenienced. Without shearers on board it probably wont happen.....
- Get them involved, they love having input.....after all they are very hands on with the sheep **BUT** don't listen too much!
- Only the ewe hoggets are measured.



Press Esc to exit full screen

1.5K views

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Pause



1K views

0:00 / 0:22



Data collection

- eID tag in the sheep's ear
- Stick Reader - Charged
- Bluetooth Barcode Printer - Charged
- Weigh Head - Charged
- Barcode scanner – usb cable to the weigh head
- Weigh bars under the wool table
- Weigh crate/sheep handler – combi clamp
- Pen! Make notes on the printed barcode!

How we use eID at Lymn Farms

- Currently measure 4 traits
 - Body Weight
 - Fleece Weight
 - Fibre Diameter
 - Litter size...twins or single born
- Individual animal data to Lazerline (Ian Bratdke) to input into index closely matched to our Breeding Objectives...ranks hoggets 1st to last.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
TAG	VID	Micron	S.D.	C.V.	C.F.%	BW	GFW	GFW	FDum	CV%	BWT	CFW%	FDum	CV%	BWT%	DP 8%	DP 8%
Average		20.24	3.46	17.08	98.67	76.06	5.70	(%)	(dev)	(dev)	(%)	(dev)	(dev)	(dev)	(dev)	Index	Rank
.ookout 144		Test Data				Phenotypic Values						Progeny Values				Performance	
982 123544248635	7405	19.4	2.9	14.7	99	69	4.2	74	-0.84	-2.38	91	-4.26	-0.17	-0.48	-0.68	91.78	115
982 123544248636	7404	19.5	3	15.4	99.8	66	5.4	95	-0.74	-1.68	87	-0.36	-0.13	-0.19	-2.44	96.09	92
982 123544248637	7403	19.7	3.4	17.1	99.4	94	7	123	-0.54	0.02	124	1.84	-0.31	-0.10	4.58	123.54	1
982 123544248638	7402	21.1	3.3	15.7	99.1	81	5.8	102	0.86	-1.36	107	-0.04	0.22	-0.30	1.43	100.94	69
982 123544248639	7401	20.8	3.5	16.7	97.8	88.5	6.6	116	0.56	-0.38	116	1.56	0.06	-0.14	3.07	111.93	20
982 123544248640	7400	20.4	3.5	17.1	98.6	72	4.4	77	0.16	0.02	95	-3.34	0.09	-0.09	-0.40	88.11	125
982 123544248721	7319	19.3	3.4	17.8	99	64	5.4	95	-0.94	0.72	84	0.02	-0.18	0.26	-3.31	93.68	105
982 123544248722	7318	20.6	3.8	18.5	97.7	76.5	6.1	107	0.36	1.42	101	1.39	0.09	0.28	-0.37	99.79	74
982 123544248723	7317	18.7	4.2	22.7	97.8	72	5.9	103	-1.54	5.62	95	1.03	-0.45	1.07	-1.78	101.44	63
982 123544248724	7316	22.5	3.9	17.3	98	77	6.8	119	2.26	0.22	101	3.93	0.65	0.13	-0.84	95.94	93
982 123544248725	7315	19.6	3.4	17.3	99.5	85.5	6.3	110	-0.64	0.22	112	0.62	-0.27	-0.02	2.50	113.43	16
982 123544248726	7314	19.5	4.5	23.1	97.5	75.5	7.3	128	-0.74	6.02	99	5.10	-0.25	1.24	-1.83	108.30	28
982 123544248727	7313	21.1	4.4	21	96.5	76	6.2	109	0.86	3.92	100	2.19	0.23	0.73	-0.99	95.45	98
982 123544248729	7311	19	3.1	16.3	99.1	85.5	6.4	112	-1.24	-0.78	112	0.58	-0.44	-0.18	2.67	117.95	8
982 123544248730	7310	23.5	4.4	18.9	95.8	71.5	5	88	3.26	1.82	94	-0.24	0.99	0.28	-1.69	74.39	144
982 123544248732	7308	19.7	3	15.3	98.9	82	5	88	-0.54	-1.78	108	-3.01	-0.19	-0.47	2.54	103.97	49
982 123544248733	7307	20.8	2.6	12.4	99.6	79.5	5.4	95	0.56	-4.68	105	-1.53	0.16	-0.90	1.72	101.61	61
982 123544248734	7306	17.9	3.9	22	98.8	80	6	105	-2.34	4.92	105	0.18	-0.75	0.85	0.75	112.34	19
982 123544248735	7305	18.6	2.6	13.8	99.8	77.5	7.2	126	-1.64	-3.28	102	3.26	-0.49	-0.42	0.17	121.42	4
982 123544248736	7304	19.9	4.1	20.6	98.2	73.5	5.8	102	-0.34	3.52	97	0.79	-0.10	0.66	-1.21	97.52	85
982 123544248737	7303	19.8	3	15.4	99.5	75	6.2	109	-0.44	-1.68	99	1.20	-0.12	-0.22	-0.34	105.99	37
982 123544248738	7302	20.7	2.7	13.1	100	82.5	5.4	95	0.46	-3.98	108	-1.78	0.11	-0.82	2.54	103.63	52
982 123544248739	7301	18.2	3.5	19.3	100	91	5.1	89	-2.04	2.22	120	-3.69	-0.73	0.13	4.88	115.21	15
982 123544248740	7300	22.3	4	17.9	99.1	65.5	5.8	102	2.06	0.82	86	2.13	0.69	0.28	-3.65	82.05	139
982 123544248741	7299	20.6	2.5	12.1	100	77	5.3	93	0.36	-4.98	101	-1.69	0.13	-0.93	1.12	100.45	70
982 123544248742	7298	20.4	3.4	16.9	99.2	77	4.8	84	0.16	-0.18	101	-2.68	0.05	-0.14	0.86	94.32	102
982 123544248743	7297	19.6	3.5	17.8	99.5	74.5	6.3	110	-0.64	0.72	98	1.73	-0.18	0.22	-0.83	105.23	41
982 123544248744	7296	19.5	3.1	16	99	77	5.3	93	-0.74	-1.08	101	-1.65	-0.22	-0.24	0.81	102.78	55
982 123544248745	7295	19.3	3.6	18.6	98.9	78.5	5.3	93	-0.94	1.52	103	-1.58	-0.30	0.19	0.95	102.62	56
982 123544248746	7294	18	2.2	12.4	99.8	76	5	88	-2.24	-4.68	100	-3.36	-0.63	-0.88	1.42	110.72	21
982 123544248747	7293	23.2	4.6	19.7	93.6	84.5	6.9	121	2.96	2.62	111	4.01	0.78	0.45	0.89	96.37	89
982 123544248748	7292	18.6	3.1	16.6	99.1	89	6.6	116	-1.64	-0.48	117	0.72	-0.59	-0.15	3.61	123.44	2
982 123544248749	7291	17.7	3.5	19.8	99.4	81.5	6.5	114	-2.54	2.72	107	1.18	-0.81	0.50	1.19	119.34	7
982 123544248750	7290	19.7	2.8	14.3	98.5	71.5	4.8	84	-0.54	-2.78	94	-2.69	-0.10	-0.52	-0.32	96.14	91
982 123544248751	7289	22.6	3.3	14.8	98.2	74	6	105	2.36	-2.28	97	1.65	0.72	-0.35	-0.91	90.38	118
982 123544248753	7287	21.3	3.7	17.2	98.7	74.5	5.7	100	1.06	0.12	98	0.53	0.33	0.03	-0.66	93.45	108

Future

- Mandatory eID will bring some transparency to the 'kill sheet', we will be able to track with confidence each carcass? At present, we have little control once an animal leaves the farm gate - be nice to rebalance the power inequity
- Meat eating quality traits – is it possible to differentiate in the market, MSA or Wagyu lamb?
- Use eID in wethers to check Average Daily Gain – use for genetics and management.
- Track dressing percentages
 - Genetic influence and management practices

Thankyou

- I must acknowledge my family. My wife Leanne and kids Joey, Elsey and Amber. Many Sundays are spent doing 'sheep on Sunday' jobs. Their sacrifices make my passion for sheep and wool possible.



Take home messages

- The variability within the flock is enormous, until animals are measured this variability goes largely unnoticed
- eID is a tool to enable accurate and timely data collection
- Keep the shearers happy, make the data collection work with and around them
- **Do not** take your eye off the ball – visual classing is still completely necessary.
- Be very careful about unintended consequences....e.g., fertility, and negatively correlated traits like staple strength.

Tools and resources

- Elevate your flock with eID
- Maximising the value eID for sheep producers
- Scanning for success with eID