



Flock 336 - Est. 1960



# KENTISH DOWNS POLL DORSET STUD

Newsletter No.2

January 2009



### Seasons Greetings

Welcome to the 2nd Kentish Downs Newsletter. We trust this newsletter greets you all with a positive outlook on improved seasonal conditions from those we have been experiencing over the past few years.

I know that over the past 9 years at North Billabong I am yet to see what this farm can achieve. At one stage I did think that an icecream shop in Noosa might be a good idea. I am sure that the heavens will open up soon and give us all a bumper year.

Our newsletters are aimed at establishing a consistent information flow from us to all lamb producers, on events past, present and future at Kentish Downs.

Our breeding objective is to produce prime lamb sires that will make a significant positive difference to your bottom line profitability.

This years summer ram selection has seen an overall increase in all of our rams estimated breeding values. Our growth has remained static while our number of extreme lean rams has decreased but our muscling has doubled. We feel that this is a outstanding achievement within our flock and now look towards our next genetic improvement. We have just completed our mating for the 2009 drop lambs and are happy with our selection of sires used. Each sire used within the flock is selected to do a specific job on their ewes, whether it be a bit of growth, more muscling or a bit more fat. Kentish Downs is all about mating for breed correction and optimum structure, we don't consider ourselves to been driven by EBV's as they are only a guide to helping achieve visually outstanding progeny, with the figures to back them up.

### 2009 Summer Ram Sale

The 2009 Summer Ram Sale Catalogue is available online on our website or alternatively please contact us for a catalogue on (02) 60367261. Last year we had an Open Day where all the rams were penned and people could come and choose. Due to not being able to select a date that suits everyone, we have decided to print up the catalogue and let clients make thier own appointment to come and select their genetics. We hope that this new format will fit in with your busy schedules over the coming months. Rams will be available for selection from the 27th January. The catalogue will be updated regularly on the website to reflect any alterations.

### Coming events for 2009

#### Jan-March

Ongoing Private Lambplan Sale 85 Rams for sale by appointment only.

#### June

Cowra Poll Dorset Championships

#### July

17-19th Bendigo Sheep & Wool Show

#### September

4th Royal Adelaide Show

12th Australasian Poll Dorset Championships

17th Royal Melbourne Show

22 - 24th Henty Machinery Field Days

30th **On-Property Ram Sale**

### 2008 Sale Report

A big thankyou to all who purchased Kentish Downs rams in 2008, whether at our annual sale or privately. Over, 125 rams were offered at the spring auction, including 50 spring-drop rams, which sold to a 90% clearance and an \$820 average. The spring 2008 sale was a reflection of buyers ability to select genetics that are specific for their operation. Fatter rams sold for a higher average than their mates which we bred specifically for the export market. Current prices for export and domestic lambs have been encouraging, lets hope this continues. Particular thanks to all those loyal clients who have bought year in year out, individually or through agents. The support we have received at our ram sales has been terrific. However, we realise that support will only remain and grow if we continue to improve our product. In order to achieve this we need and value your feedback, whether it is positive or negative we want to hear what we need to hear, not just what we'd like to hear!

### Kentish Downs Website Update

We have recently updated our website with new sale dates and catalogue information for 2009 as well as historical sale data. Our sires page has also been updated to reflect the top sires used in our stud for the 2009 drop lambs. Our aim this year is to feature a few commercial clients on our website, so if you are interested in us doing a feature on you, please contact us.

# www.kentishdowns.com.au

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