

White River continues genetic advancement

The Daniell family, White River Merino & Poll Merino studs at Minnipa and Poochera, has made some very significant sire infusions in recent times, including the \$24,500 top priced Poll Merino ram purchased in partnership from the 2009 Leahcim sale. This year they have continued with their policy of introducing new sires that can produce productive and industry relevant Merino and Poll Merino rams by successfully blending with their present gene pool that also includes 'WR Kaldoonera' the supreme exhibit at this year's Adelaide Royal and North Ashrose 'Icing' and his top son. They have recently purchased 3 new Merino rams from Western Australia.

In August, White River placed the winning \$7,000 bid for the proven sire Barloo Dominator 2 from Richard and Cindy House's Barloo stud at the Rabobank Katanning stud ram sale. Stud principal John Daniell said they had used Barloo genetics in the past and had been very pleased with the plain bodies and excellent carcase traits that had resulted.

"When we saw this impressive and proven sire was being offered at Katanning, we thought he would enhance our quest to continue breeding big, plain bodied sheep with excellent growth rates. He was at an interesting age to be offered, but he was a proven and successful sire and we were familiar with his background, having successfully used his sire, 'Dominator 235' in 2006," John Daniell said.

'Dominator 235' was sired by 'Dominator 200', a former supreme exhibit at Katanning and WA representative at the National Ram of the Year at Dubbo, NSW. 'Dominator 2' has good carcase attributes and impressive wool test results of 20.6 microns, 2.9 SD, 15.8 CV and 99.7 CF.

Then at the recent Barloo on-property ram sale where the House family sold 142 rams for a \$1,313 average, White River pounced again, purchasing his two top sons for the sale's top two prices of \$7,200 and \$6,600.

Wes and Jacquie Daniell travelled over to the Barloo on-property sale and selected these two rams. Wes went to \$6,600 for the first ram in the Barloo team, a big upstanding 115kg ram with wool test figures of 17.3 microns, 3.6 SD, 17.8 CV, 99.7 CF and FW of +5.2.

Five lots later he bid the sale's top price of \$7,200 for another terrific 110kg Dominator 2 son, with wool figures of 17.7 microns, 3.5 SD, 18.2 CV, 99.6 CF and FW of +5.3.

"We were very impressed with these big framed, structurally sound and plain fronted Barloo rams and their long stapled and bright white wool. They should blend in very well with our current breeding flock and we expect they should go very well over WR 'Commonwealth' daughters in particular", Wes Daniell said.



Barloo Dominator 2, the proven sire from the House family's Barloo stud that was purchased by White River stud, Minnipa and Poochera, SA for \$7,000 at the Rabobank Katanning Merino ram sale in August.



These two rams were bought by the Daniell family, White River stud, South Australia at the recent Barloo on-property sale, with the ram on the left topping the sale at \$7,200 and the ram on the right selling for \$6,600. With the rams are Elders stud stock manager Tim Spicer (left), Gnowangerup, agent Richard Poulish, Paul Gugliatti, Barloo (holding the left ram), Wes & Jacquie Daniell, White River stud, Cindy & Richard House, Barloo and the Barloo stud's longest client, John Bungey of Borden.