

Top 5

September 5 2022

NVD UPDATE

Fresh update from MLA- the NVD app will be updated by the end of the year to work offline! This means it will work without reception, passing on information when you're back in service which has been a big problem.

FERT ECONOMICS

As its warming feed is taking off, but we're still asking whether to fertilise or not!

First - 1kg N= approx 15 kg, at current growth rates of 20-40 kg day.
 With Urea at \$1000, the cost of N/kg = \$2.17
 = cost of increased dry matter is 14 cents per kg
 (The equivalent, feeding lupins, is 35 cents/kg)

BUT will your pasture respond to N? Think of growth rates and pasture composition. It will take a couple of weeks to work and growth rates will have kicked by then.

Other factors-Sheep intake peaks at 1500 FOO.

So if you eat the extra feed the worst outcome is Break even. If it won't get utilised (ie you have enough feed, or not enough sheep!) don't fertilise.

ASBVs, AND RAM BUYING

ASBVs and indexes defined! There's a lot of acronyms, so here's a handy guide. We also have pocket sized hard copies if preferred: [Pocket Guide ASBV's](#) And Ed's podcast, a guide to ram buying: [Decisions](#)

SAFETY

GrainGrowers' new farm Safety course is a good intro! It aims to provide practical, useful tools to help improve farm health and safety practices.

<https://graingrowers.com.au/courses/farm-safety>

REPRODUCTION

There's been discussion on the WhatsApp about heat potentially impacting 2022's repro rates, and this episode from Repro Radio was suggested: [LISTEN](#)

Seen at WALRC's Livestock Matters, average performance over the past few years from Murdoch Uni's reproduction research. This compares Maiden performance, as well as Merino vs Non-Merino. Red= lowest performance, some of which goes against what we think:

	MERINO		NON MERINO	
	Maiden	Non-maiden	Maiden	Non-maiden
Marking %	80	102	74	132
Repro rate %	108	132	109	159
Lamb survival	75	78	67	83
Ewe mortality	1.7	2.4	2.6	2.8