



Top 5

December 13th, 2023

VITAMIN E

Yes another reminder its time to give lambos vitamin E as its been well and truly 6weeks since they've had green feed. Deficiency is shown by sudden deaths, weakness, animals going down, being reluctant to stand but still alert.

Drench if they're in the yards, or mix into feed (and then move fast!)

2.5G/hd of Vit E powder, or 5kg product mixed with 10L water for 1000 sheep.

RYEGRASS TOX

Reports of ryegrass tox around- pastures and hay.

Sheep show signs 2-6 days after moving into a paddock. Usually, deaths or convulsing on the ground are noticed first, but try watching the mob move for a few hundred metres- high stepping gait or loss of hind leg coordination, repeated falls, or not being able to get up.

Fix: move to a clean paddock. Call a vet & grab a hay/pasture/silage sample to confirm. DPIRD does testing \$49.

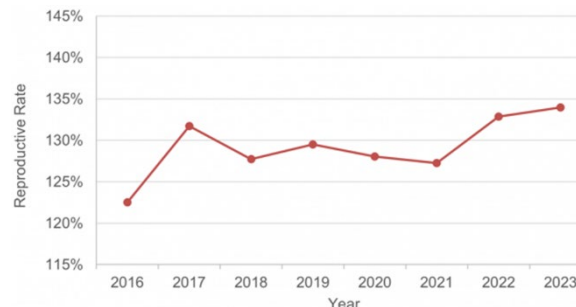
PREG SCANNING 2023

DPIRD pulled together some info on WA repro rates based on preg scanning data from, over Merinos and meat breeds. This is part of their

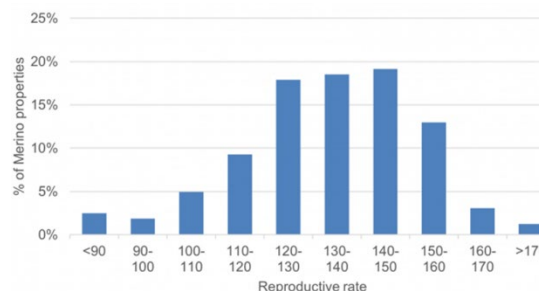


Scanning Benchmarking tool, which lets you compare performance over years, [HERE](#).

2023's Merino repro rates are below, at 134% in, with 11% dry.



Distribution of those scanning rates are below



FEED TEST

The feeds that vary the most in energy value are hay, silage & oats, so it can be worth testing what you're actually feeding out! Give us a call as we are helping with testing. Below shows the average range, compared to lupin and barley.

FEED	ENERGY (MJ/kg DM)
Hay-oaten	8.8-10.2
Hay-pasture	8-11.3
Silage	8.5-11
Oat	9.5-11.5
Barley	11.5-12.2
Lupins	13-14

2024

It might be a grim future with sheep prices, rising operating costs etc etc. Let's calm the panic-there's talk of drastic changes to systems, like not joining sheep, selling down flocks,- but changes don't need to be big!

Consider joining more ewes for crossbreds, re-evaluating the amount of crop and stocking rates, or preg scanning so can sell off dries. Keep in mind 2024 repro rates are likely to be lower, like they were in 2018 after the poor 2017 year.

And give us a call if you want to talk anything through.