

# Top 4

July 18th, 2024

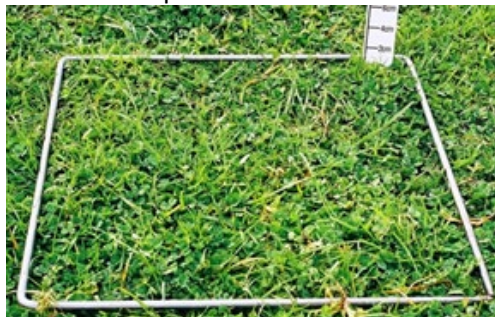
## FOO MEASUREMENTS

Why are we so short of pasture this year? Its not just late rains, as we had warm weather and saw good growth with enough rain to keep it going. Could it be lower germination due to last spring, with poor seed set?

Either way, we thought it would be good to share AWI's FOO library, which can help you determine how much FOO you actually have. It's a good reminder of how 1000 FOO looks with different species- enough to maintain lambing ewes. [LINK](#)



Grasses above compared to 1500 kgDM/ha of clover based pasture:

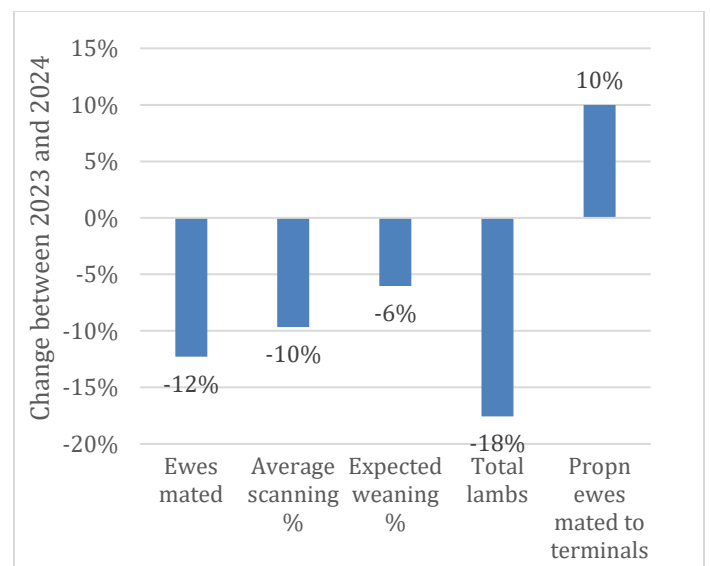
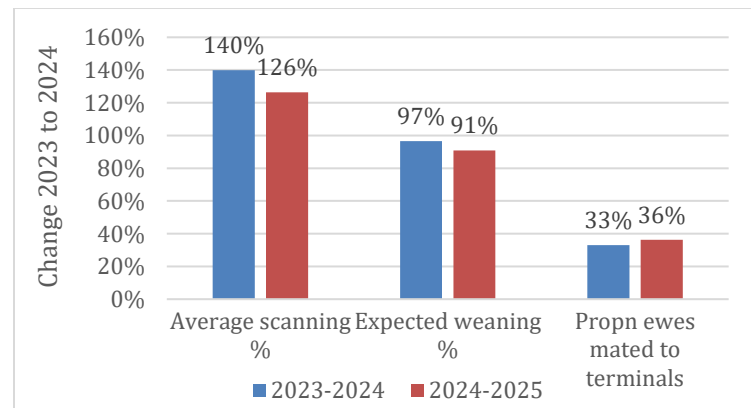


## JOINING SURVEY

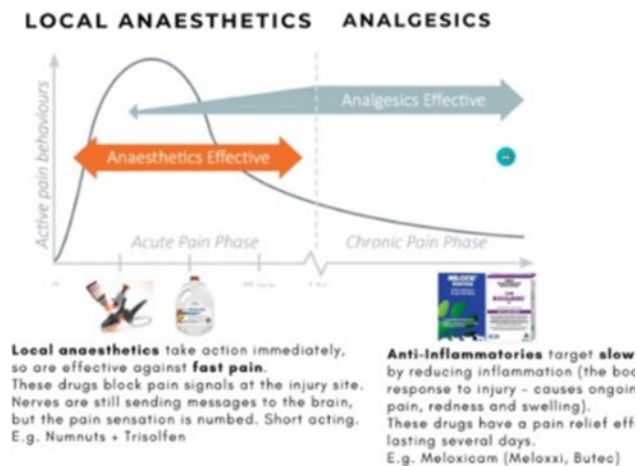
Thanks to the 54 of you who completed the lambing survey covering 2023 and 2024.

To put it into perspective, there's a modelled 9% decrease in the national flock size from the 2023/24 year to 2024-2025 predicted.

From the WA data, we're looking at a 12% decrease in ewes mated, with 10% more mated to terminals than usual. Combined with poor scanning results, we're looking at 18% less 2024 drop lambs



## PAIN RELIEF



Action	Application	WHP	Mulesing	Tail docking with knife/hot knife	Castration with knife	Tail docking with rings	Castration with ring
Short acting local anaesthetic e.g. Tri-Solfen®	Fan spray application to the wound (effective in less than 1 min)	90 days	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Short acting local anaesthetic e.g. NumOcaine®	Injection with Numnuts® device (effective in less than 1 min)	0 days	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Longer-acting analgesic e.g. Buccalgesic® and Butec Buccal Gel®	Oral with custom applicator - gel applied inside the cheek (effective from 15 mins)	10 days	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Longer-acting analgesic injectable Meloxicam, e.g. Metacam®20	Subcutaneous injection into muscle high on neck (effective from 10 mins)	11 days	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

### METACAM –

Vet script, injectable  
60c/head. 15minutes uptake.  
72hrs whole animal (anti-inflammatory and decreases fever)  
Hard to overdose as big cushion  
7day withholding period

### TRISOLFEN-

Over counter Gel spray  
80c/head  
Nearly instant, lasts min 24hrs. *Combined with a long acting, adrenaline to constrict blood vessels and an antiseptic.*  
Topical Anaesthetic and antiseptic . Gel so seals.  
Should form a foam when applying. Spray in an upside down 'A' (3xswipes) for 10kg lamb=6mls  
Meat withholding period 90days  
Can apply Clik straight after but not Avenge.

### BUCCALGESIC-

Vet 1-3ml (max 79c/15kg lambs)

Contains meloxicam, is a gel to gums/cheek.  
Applicator looks like drench gun  
Uptake 15mins minimum, lasts 24hours  
Withholding of 10days sheep, 14 days cattle  
Change needle every 200 lambs

Using in a combo with a short acting eg Trisolfen or Numnuts for full cover and do on cradle

### NUMNUTS-

Vet script no longer needed.  
67cents per shot  
Deposits local anaesthetic to the two spermatic nerves  
1.5ml numocaine (65 shots a bottle)  
No withholding period

## TRAIN LIGHTING PETITION

While we might not transport sheep by train anymore, we cross tracks regularly. 2 weeks left to sign the petition for lighting of trains.

[SIGN HERE](#)

Between 1 July 2014 and 31 December 2022 across Australia's level crossings there were 7,839 near hits, 322 collisions, 39 fatalities and 49 serious injuries involving either road vehicles or pedestrians.