

# Top 5

October 3rd, 2023

## Failing Crops: CROP IT OR EAT IT

Mostly for the north and east, who have seen some terribly warm days. Our tool to assist with decision of grazing failed crops or very low yielding crops. It's very much a rough guide so **please call Ed To discuss**. (@ \$1 per kg live weight it's not that attractive).

Tool [HERE](#)

Also please put in as number 1 'training lambs onto lupins or summer feed'. This is particularly important given the need for sale stock to continue to grow post weaning. (four feeds minimum).

## LICE DRENCH UPDATE

Turns out some of the information we had about WH periods wasn't right, and we learnt more about Lice since then anyway!

**30% of farms have lice. 70% of those farms will still have lice in a year.**

The problem is lice are easy to kill, but hard to find- it takes on average 5 months to notice an infection due to their slow population growth.. Because of this, we are often mis-identifying the infection source. That 30%70% stat tells us it's commonly a carry-on from your last infection, (so maybe we need to blame the neighbours less).

This new lice drench, Flexolt: Treat it like a knockdown, and your general lice control like

you would worm control- tactical and strategic application.

Flexolt works by secreting through the skin, so gives 100% control within 7-12 days, with no eggs surviving.

For a 70kg sheep, it's about \$2.70, so 70c more than Vanquish.

It can be used in any wool length & weather. It's super safe from overdosing- with a 5x safety margin. Meat WH is 14 days. Wool 0.

Recommended to use the 10ml drench gun as it can be gummy/not very liquid and slow to refill

## START PLANNING: AUTUMN FEED

Grain prices have had us happy recently, and a lot of us have had a great year feeding a higher percentage of lupins when it was cheaper than feed barley.

BUT. GIWA's report last week reinforces that lupins are likely to be few and far between over the next 6 months, with WA's lupin crop likely to be more than half of 2022 and 2021's. Be warned, prices will climb this autumn.

## FLY RESISTANCE: FREE TESTS

They're a-buzzing right now! If you're wanting to see if your flies are developing resistance, get in touch. Your flies are YOURS- 5km is their patch- and with reports of decreased protection time, it's good to know where you're at.

DPI NSW is doing free testing, and we have kits. All you have to do is grab some maggots.

## EWES LAMBS

Joining ewe lambs is likely not something people are thinking about doing next year, with prices where they are. But it was cool to read recent NZ study finding that a lot of poor weaner performance has to do with abortions, particularly early, unseen ones. Ewe lambs have higher reproductive loss between day 1 and 14 of pregnancy than adult ewes, and 7% higher between day 35 and birth. They're doing more research into why.

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