

Top 5

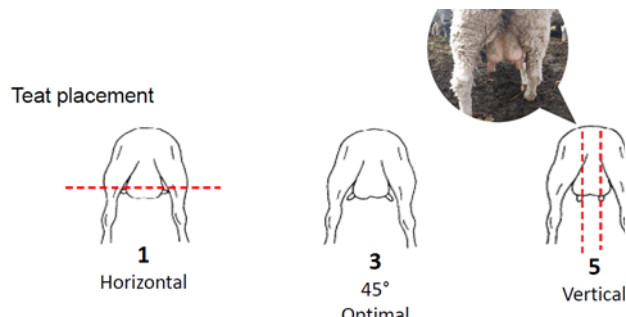
August 7th, 2023

AGPRO'S STOCKCON

Katanning 15th August & Moora 17th August
Farm system comparisons and scenario planning, market updates, Lupinosis update, OHS package comparisons, being a better a boss, plus golf... no reason not to join us! More info [HERE](#)

CULLING FOR UDDER & TEATS

Coming to Sheep Visual Guides- because dodgy udders lead to increased lamb mortality. The perfect time to cull for udder & teat traits is during lactation- so now. With marking and crutching happening at the moment, get out the rattle, because this is also a heritable trait. Bigger ain't better: Udder depth & cleft, Teat size and placement are the traits, with wool cover having no impact. More info with pics [HERE](#) and full scientific paper [HERE](#)



FLYSTRIKE %

The genetics conference we attended outlined studies starting to look into if flystrike resistance is heritable. Its too early to say, but part of their studies has pulled together from all past literature to show where flies attack in AU, with flystrike incidences being distributed as follows:

Breech: 81% of flystrike cases

Body: 9.3%

Poll: 7%

Pizzle: 2.5%

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Mark Henryon headlined the genetics conference (AAABG), discussing animal production's place in the future and how it might look. In the process he threw out these gems to ruminate over:

- "We like change as long as it resembles the old stuff"
- There will be economic values placed on "licence to produce" traits eg penalties.
- Animal production isn't going anywhere- we need high protein sources, essential nutrients, they use unarable land and convert biomass we can't, as well as there being huge cultural and social implications
- *In face of the current market situation, this one is sticking in front of mind:*
- "Good business models don't usually change their breeding goals without strong signals or directions. This usually comes from the economy and market, or the government in the form of incentives, penalties or legislation."

SPRING PASTURE CALCS

The basics are often ignored in spring as we know there will be a glut for a while. As sheep

come in for marking and weaning, paddocks change- lets add a bit of science to those decisions.

We'll keep building on this each Top 5, but the very basic concept is:

Calculation 1: how much do your sheep need?
(rule of thumb, 60kg lactating ewe about 1.6kg of pasture right now)

Calculation 2: how much feed do you have?
Current FOO+ daily Pasture Growth (use Pastures from Space)

Is the result of 1 equal or less than 2? Good.

