



Top 5

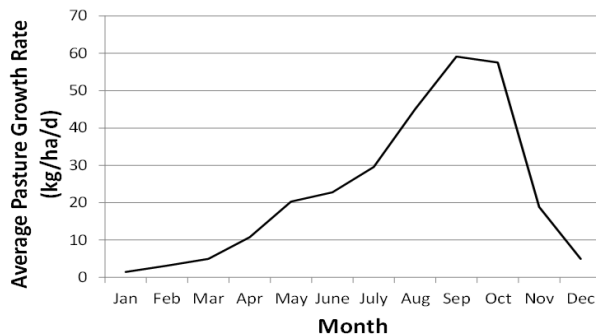
July 3rd, 2024

GIBB ACID & N

Kojonup area average pasture growth, just to show the curve- STILL ON THE UP.

For those looking at increasing growth rates, read the full breakdown of Gibb & N: [HERE](#) as well as a good tool from Evergraze to help calc the value: [CALC](#)

Average monthly pasture growth rate



MAIDEN PERFORMANCE

Wondered why maidens are known to be “bad mothers” and have lower lamb survival?

Maiden offspring will nearly always have:

- Lower birth weights
- Lower growth rates
- Lower survival to weaning

Its not necessarily their behaviour, but also their reproductive tissues being inexperienced- the uterus and mammary glands. More research is needed, but it supports the idea that maybe don't cull on wet and dry, lambled and lost in maidens.....

STATE OVERVIEW

While the AgPro team has been putting in the k's and phone calls to support what's going on around the state, we thought, maybe you'd like a snapshot too. We were expecting a lot of differences, but realistically, you all seem to be in the same boat. Key messages were:

- Its wet enough right now, but we need rain next week. Particularly true in the north.
- Dams need filling but mostly ok for now
- Sheep feeding is finishing up now to mid July, with a few unsure if they'd need to keep feeding to the end of July.
- On average, a few hundred extra wethers on hand
- Workwise everyone said they're on top of it, in control and trying to plan ahead based on rain and pasture growth

Rainwise, its too early to make drastic sheep decisions, but some may be looking at past year performance and holding back on cropping inputs. Don't skimp on your pastures, its way cheaper than hand feeding!

NEW CASTRATION RING?

Next edition will cover the cradle, including pain options to help you decide what's happening.

In the meantime, tail docking and castration using elastrator bands could more easily include a pain relief, with lidocaine-impregnated bands. Trials in Armadale showed males had higher growth rates in the first week post application than the non-pain relief rings. However, this evened out so overall, there was no weight difference or advantage. Popular in Canada, this could be an option for those wanting to incorporate pain relief on the cradle. Brand is Lidoband yet to find a stockist in AU so let us know if you hear anything! Full paper: [HERE](#)

JOINING SURVEY

If you haven't already, please fill out our survey on LAMB PRODUCTION 2023 vs 2024. Its literally less than 5 minutes, anonymous, but overall results will be shared back to the network so you can see the trends. [SURVEY](#)
