

STUDMASTER'S COMMENTS

May I take an opportunity to commend this year's offering to you and say they are among one of the best offerings ever at Orrie Cowie, which is a blessing considering the seasons we have all experienced of late.

Please avail yourselves of this quality line-up.

As I said in your letter, our rams this year and onwards are plainer on the body than before, please be sure we will maintain quality wool on carcass-based sheep.

We have made use of our bright, new white eco-shelter (following the lead of a local fellow studbreeder) and trust the facilities prove as good as usual.

Regarding the meat measurements: I feel they were taken too early and that the rams have changed significantly within groups since then.

Once again we have allowed the age-old problematic lack of quality summer feed to affect the horn structure of the spring drop (woolly) rams when they were weaners. In comparing the same sires in use for the autumn drop and spring weaning, the horn structure is significantly better. My apologies and if you would like I can cut the horns shorter to make your shearing easier, prior to delivery. Please discuss with me.

Yield tests on the woolly rams are fairly high. I feel the nourishment is still very good but being shedded and growing so much staple with extra feed has elevated the yield figures. The short wool rams are really too short for a reliable yield figure, but I did test the reserves to give you an indication.

All rams fleece sampled and tested June '07.

*May I suggest that considering the buoyant state of both the meat and wool markets, if you would like to improve your flock more quickly than normal, or you are breeding a few rams, you may consider the use of semen from Orrie Cowie **proven sires**. Availability to commercial breeders is totally unrestricted (you can start right at the top if you want) and price by negotiation can be very reasonable.*

Good luck with your purchases and thank you for choosing Orrie Cowie.