LEAHCIM NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter No.23

July 2025

White Suffolks & Poll Merinos
Leahcim Wool - Farm to Yarn to You
Hummocks Station Tourist Park

Welcome

Despite the chaos and volatility in today's world, marked by record droughts, soaring lamb and mutton prices, rising interest rates, political tensions, global conflicts, environmental concerns, and the ban on live sheep exports, Leahcim remains unwaveringly dedicated to providing top-tier genetics for the sheep and wool industries. These are undeniably challenging times, testing the resilience and innovation of everyone involved in agriculture and livestock. Yet, we believe that those who persevere and continue investing in these industries will ultimately see lasting rewards and growth.

At Leahcim, our commitment to excellence is reflected not only in our breeding programs, but also in our ongoing support for farmers and industry partners. We closely monitor shifts in market conditions and adapt our strategies to help our clients remain competitive and successful. Through continuous research and development, we strive to improve sheep health, productivity and wool quality, ensuring that the genetics we offer stand at the forefront of industry standards.

This newsletter features in-depth sire evaluation analysis, comprehensive updates on our latest breeding programs and insightful producer testimonials detailing the impact of Leahcim genetics on their flocks.

Although at times the future may seem uncertain, Leahcim's vision remains clear: to support our clients through every challenge, champion innovation, and help shape a more sustainable and prosperous future for sheep and wool producers everywhere.

The Michael Family

Leahcim's 2025 Calendar of Events

- ★ **Australian Sheep & Wool Show at Bendigo** – Friday 18th - Sunday 20th July
- ★ **South East Stud Merino Field Day at Keith** – Wednesday 23rd July
- ★ **Classics Classic at Murray Bridge** – Monday 1st September
- ★ **Leahcim Snowtown Poll Merino Sale** – Tuesday 9th September
- ★ **Leahcim Snowtown White Suffolk Sale** - Friday 12th September

Overview

Since our 2024 newsletter some of Australia's environmental landscape and livestock fortunes have been challenged to breaking point. In South Australia the tomato virus, severe frosts, algal blooms, record low rainfall and extreme temperatures have eroded confidence and moral in the Horticulture, Fisheries, Coastal Tourism, Viticulture, Dairy, Livestock and Grain Growing in regions of our Great State and others. Many areas in Australia have also had major challenges with floods, Government regulations and the future bans on live export which also affects a wide range of people, not just farmers.

At Leahcim we have been leaders in the research and adoption of technology for the environmental, animal welfare and animal performance in the areas we farm. This has been so evident over this last twelve months with minimal or no environment erosion, the ability for livestock to survive and be productive during extreme circumstances, due to record low rainfall and highlighting the management benefits of environmental containment feeding has on the animal welfare of our livestock.

Early May Rosie and Andrew travelled to Melbourne to deliver some wool, then headed north through to Broken Hill, hoping to find an area to agist some of our livestock. Our options for feeding stock and retaining our sheep were rapidly running out. Last August our family was devastated when Luke and Tara lost little baby Amelia, combining this with the unfolding drought which has put life into perspective, the amazing support for Luke, Tara, Bruno and Heston from the greatest people and all our friends and contacts in the sheep and rural industry has been phenomenal. The level of connection and support for us and many other farmers through this period needs to be recognised. With our trip in May we covered 2500km through South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales with only an area from Swan Hill to Broken Hill showing signs of green.

We wanted to share a few of the extremely generous and sincere commitments through this period from friends, clients, agents, and partnerships that have formed over many years:

Andrew, Tarsh and Dan Dowling (Keri-Keri Merino Stud) who after a phone conversation while travelling north of Melbourne on our agistment searching trip, made an amazing commitment to us. They shifted some of their sheep around to make room for 250 of our stud ewes (Keri -Keri are the same MN3 status) which were delivered to their property within 48 hours. The Dowling family and ours were originally innovators with Jim Watts in the 1990s, running breeding workshops to stimulate better sheep breeding philosophies, the Dowling family focus is still the same today.

Craig and Rebel Bell from Bono Station situated between Pooncarie and Menindee only the next day made the same amazing commitment to support our family. Craig mentioned that he was in the same situation as us a number of years ago and a farmer in NSW made the same offer to him. Four days before the sheep were to go to NSW, Bono station receive good rains which allowed the sheep to stay at home.

Bill, Liz and Charlie Holcombe from QLD also offered agistment with such amazing flexibility and passion. Whilst writing this article, we are still working through the possibilities.

Punk (Mark) and Kellie Davidson have been the greatest support and neighbours you could ever imagine, especially when the chips are down, what a great family!

These are just a few families that have helped us through the drought, the list of people that have supported us from every state in Australia is too many to mention, but we thank you all from the bottom of our heart!

Leahcim Ewe Lambs being loaded for agistment in NSW

Balmoral Trial

As mentioned in the introduction, Leahcim has been and continues to be heavily invested in research and technology in the sheep industry. We attended the Balmoral Sire Evaluation Trial in April viewing the animals, and comparing the data. It clearly showed the benefits of sheep breeding values and the adoption of the latest technologies.

It was a credit to the Balmoral Trial committee the way the trial was run and presented at the field day. Progeny from 2023 and 2024 were presented in very good condition (especially considering the season) with displays clearly showed differences in the genetic sires' progeny.

The Data below for meat, wool and research fly strike resistance are great example of the genetic variations, maximising production while reducing expenses and wastage are extremely important in a sustainable business.

Balmoral Trial Weight, Carcase & Wool Table

	Breeders flock, Sire number	Progeny No*	WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)	YWT (kg)	YEMD (mm)	YFAT (mm)		HGFW (kg)	HCFW (kg)	HFD (µm)	HFDCV (%)
Weight and Carcase	Anderson Poll, 200504	29	24.5	43.1	58.8	31.4	6.7	Wool	5.9	4.3	17.1	17.9
	Edale, 207350	38	23.7	38.4	50.1	27.2	5.1		5.3	4.3	16.7	19.2
	Egelabra, 200117	45	24.9	41.2	55.8	28.8	5.6		5.8	4.2	17.3	18.8
	Ejanding Poll, 215492	43	25.5	41.7	60.4	31.8	5.8		5.6	4.2	16.6	18.3
	Ella Matta Poll, 210170	34	25.6	41.7	56.8	31.8	5.4		5.7	4.2	16.5	20.3
	Forest Springs Poll, 210257	28	26.0	45.6	66.4	32.6	6.3		7.2	5.2	17.8	17.9
	Gelton Poll, 190140	29	24.7	41.4	61.3	29.9	5.3		7.3	5.4	17.1	17.3
	Gringegalgona Poll, 200114	30	24.3	38.9	53.6	29.7	4.4		6.1	4.5	16.9	19.6
	Hazeldean, 001009	33	25.5	45.2	60.8	32.1	5.2		6.3	4.6	16.4	16.3
	Hill Padua, 210273	40	24.7	41.2	55.5	31.7	6.7		5.0	3.8	17.4	19.2
	Kia Ora, 190228	45	22.4	38.0	52.3	31.1	6.2		6.4	4.5	16.8	17.5
	Kiandra Poll, 210266	20	24.7	43.1	56.9	30.8	6.1		5.9	4.5	17.6	18.2
	Kurra-Wirra, 210561	38	25.2	43.5	57.7	31.1	5.1		6.4	4.7	17.8	18.5
	Mernowie Poll, 201080	34	24.4	43.0	56.4	30.8	5.1		5.2	3.7	16.5	19.6
	Mooralla Poll, 200116	25	26.5	45.3	62.1	32.0	6.9		5.7	4.2	17.9	16.9
	Mumblebone, 191150 (Link Sire)	36	23.5	41.7	59.0	32.6	7.0		5.7	4.3	17.5	17.8
	Nyowee Poll, 200298	27	23.6	36.7	45.0	25.1	2.8		4.6	3.3	16.1	21.4
	Pooginook Poll, 220122	20	26.8	43.2	60.3	31.6	6.3		6.2	4.6	16.5	16.3
	Roseville Park Poll, 213488	29	25.6	44.9	60.4	33.1	6.4		5.7	4.0	16.7	19.0
	Stirling Dohne, 210032	38	26.0	44.4	60.7	32.9	6.7		5.6	4.0	18.3	18.0
	Stud Park South Poll, 859333	28	24.2	42.8	59.2	29.8	5.1		6.4	4.6	16.7	19.0
	Trefusis, 170436	44	24.1	39.6	53.3	27.9	5.2		6.0	4.3	16.4	18.3
	Turkey Lane, 200042	26	24.3	38.7	52.4	29.5	5.1		5.5	3.7	15.7	18.3
	Wallaloo Park Poll, 161514 (Link Sire)	28	26.2	44.3	52.8	30.4	5.2		4.8	3.4	16.3	19.8
	Progeny Group Average	**32**	**24.8**	**41.7**	**56.6**	**30.5**	**5.6**		**5.9**	**4.3**	**17.0**	**18.5**

Actual Yearling body weights (YWT) and Hogget fleeces weights (HGFW) variations from the most productive to lower productive genetics is amazing. 21.4kg of body weight and 2.6kg of fleece weight, plus the carcase dressing percentage variation increase of 4% in the more productive genetics make a massive difference to the profitability, reinforcing the importance of using the most advanced measured genetics.

Raw data financial variation:
21.4kg liveweight variation or 10.2kg carcase variation @ $9.00/kg = $91.80 per lamb
2.6kg of wool at $11.00/kg = $28.60
Total variation = $120.40 per lamb

Studs that have used high performance and accurate Sheep Genetics ASBV's have repeatable, profitable progeny. For the Australian sheep industry to thrive in the future, producers need to select genetics that maximise production and quality with highly efficient animals.

To mention a few sires; Forest Springs 210257 (sired by Leahcim 173122), Mooralla Poll 200116 (Trigger Vale influence) and Pooginook Poll 220122 (Leahcim genetics in the pedigree, sire and dam). These three sires have highly accurate data in Sheep Genetics with outstanding performance in the Balmoral trial. These three sire's progeny average 11.1% more carcase weight, 6.2% more eye muscle depth and 16.1% more fat depth than the average of the trial, not the lowest performers. The growth rates, dressing percentage and the ability to produce high quality wools were clearly evident with the independent data produced from the Balmoral Trial.

Flystrike Project Breeding Values (PBV) have been created by combining old and current research data, recent on farm information, and genomics testing. The flystrike breeding values are still under development and are currently calculated independently of other correlated traits. However, validation of struck, not struck and genomics data is showing that they provide a reasonable estimate of susceptibility to flystrike. As development continues, known relationships with correlated traits such as breech wrinkle, wool colour, urine stain, and other production traits will be included, improving the accuracy of the estimates.

Key Points:
*Breech and body strike PBV's indicate the probability of being struck, with the values largely ranging from -1 to +1
* A NEGATIVE PBV IS MORE FAVOURABLE.

The Flystrike Project Breeding Values Table is shown below:

Project Breech and Body Strike Breeding Values Feb 2025

Sire Name	PBVs_breech	acc_breech
Forest Springs Poll, 210257	-0.24	52
Pooginook Poll, 220122	-0.21	51
Mumblebone, 191150	-0.19	61
Wallaloo Park Poll, 161514	-0.17	68
Anderson Poll, 200504	-0.13	82
Edale, 20Z350	-0.09	61
Roseville Park Poll, 213488	-0.08	54
Stud Park South Poll, 859333	-0.08	54
Gelton Poll, 190140	-0.07	57
Kiandra Poll, 210266	-0.07	55
Nyowee Poll, PKS15	-0.06	53
Nyowee Poll, 200298	-0.05	53
Gringegalgona Poll, 200114	-0.01	50
Stirling Dohne, 210032	-0.01	58
Ella Matta Poll, 210170	0	64
Mernowie Poll, 201080	0	61
Ejanding Poll, 215492	0.01	65
Mooralla Poll, 200116	0.01	54
Turkey Lane, 200042	0.03	65
Kurra-Wirra, 210561	0.04	59
Hazeldean, 001009	0.05	74
Egelabra, 200117	0.1	60
Hill Padua, 210273	0.13	62
Kia Ora, 190228	0.38	61
Trefusis, 170436	0.55	77

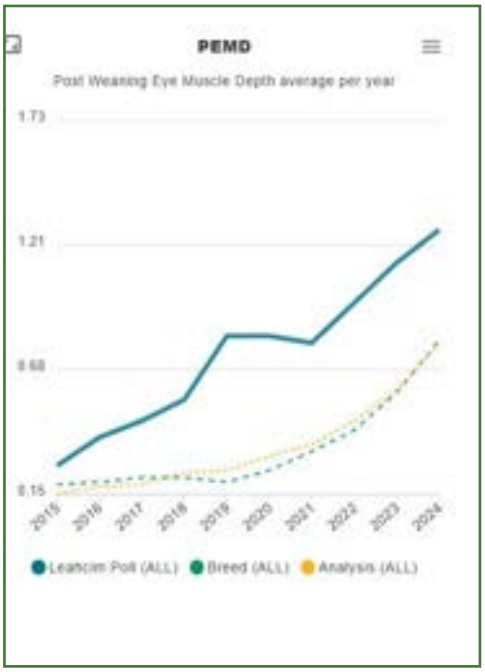
The range of Breech Strike PBVs displayed at Balmoral from -0.24 (less) to +0.55 (more) showed a large spread in animals that were more or less susceptible to breech flystrike. The selection for high follicle density, white, deep crimping, well aligned wools was shown in the flystrike project to be the best performers.

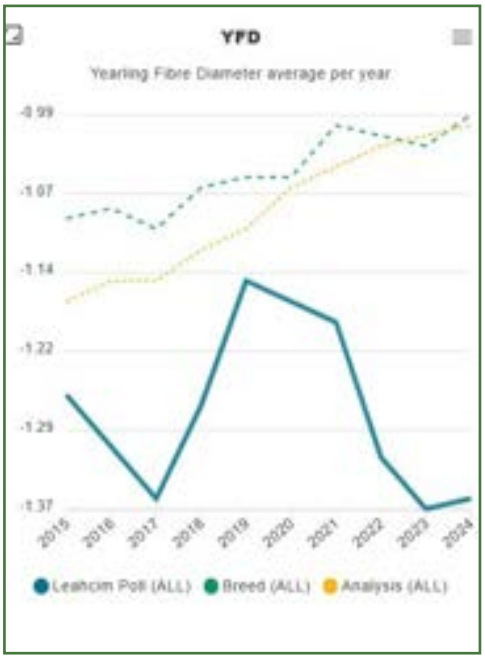
Leahcim genetics (ceased mulesing in 2004) influences in the top two performers which is a great result for our clients and more evidence that non mulesed animals have a great future in the sheep industry. They can produce high value meat, wool and skins whilst maximising animal welfare credentials.

Fat and Muscle v Micron

Due to the antagonistic nature of wool quality with PEMD and PFAT it creates a real challenge in breeding the perfect merino. We know from the work we have undertaken with skin biology, sheep with a lower micron and higher follicle density handle higher rainfall environments, and their lower Primary to Secondary fibre ratio gives them lower swint levels in the wool, making fly strike less prevalent. We know the benefits genetic fat and muscle have for fertility, dressing percentages, ewe recovery after weaning and the list goes on.

Opposite are our genetic trend graphs showing how we continue to be in front of the industry for both Fat and Muscle as well as Micron, which sets our genetics apart from the industry. We can see in these graphs, how in 2018/2019 we imported genetics to increase fat and muscle that didn't have the wool quality we were after, which had a negative impact on YFD (Micron) but since then we have been able to capture those desired traits without having a negative impact YFD.





Leahcim Poll Merino Breeding Program

The merino has to be so much more than a dual-purpose animal. We are committed to produce an animal that has a highly productive fleece and carcass, but can also be managed easily with low wrinkle and dags, as well as worm resistance. Below is an example of rams we will have on display at Bendigo and available for sale this year, exhibiting the balance of traits we aim to achieve. Two outsourced sires were used for the 2024 drop; Kiandra 221648 and Ejanding 245492. Both rams having a balance of figures we thought to be beneficial to the industry.

Tag	Sire	PWWT	YWT	PFAT	PEMD	YCFW	YFD	YSL	EBWR	LDAG	PFEC	WR	SM
242107	K221648	8.9	9.6	1.2	2.4	28.3	-1.3	18.6	-0.9	-0.6	-52.2	0.15	167
242113	223455	7.5	11.2	0.4	0.9	16.3	-2.0	12.1	-1.0	-0.2	-51.8	0.11	156
242149	203061	11.6	16.5	0.6	1.4	27.3	0.1	9.3	-1.0	-0.2	-56.1	0.22	160
242181	224395	9.5	10.6	0.3	2.1	28.5	-0.6	13.4	-0.7	-0.2	-38.1	0.13	154
242284	K221648	10.5	13.1	0.2	0.8	26.0	-2.1	11.9	-0.8	0.1	-43.7	0.16	166
242288	E215492	10.3	11.6	0.7	2.3	17.8	-1.9	14.1	-1.2	-0.5	-10.1	0.31	166
242314	223538	9.9	11.2	0.9	2.2	16.9	-2.0	15.0	-1.0	-0.5	-15.5	0.22	157
242465	213685	8.1	9.1	1.8	3.3	19.6	-1.1	15.3	-1.1	-0.5	-23.0	0.2	155
242782	224094	12.7	15.6	0.9	1.7	12.4	-1.7	5.9	-1.1	-0.5	-23.3	0.24	155
243328	202651	8.8	10.1	0.5	2.0	18.5	-1.0	18.5	-1.1	-0.3	-54.8	0.1	158

Bendigo Rams on Display

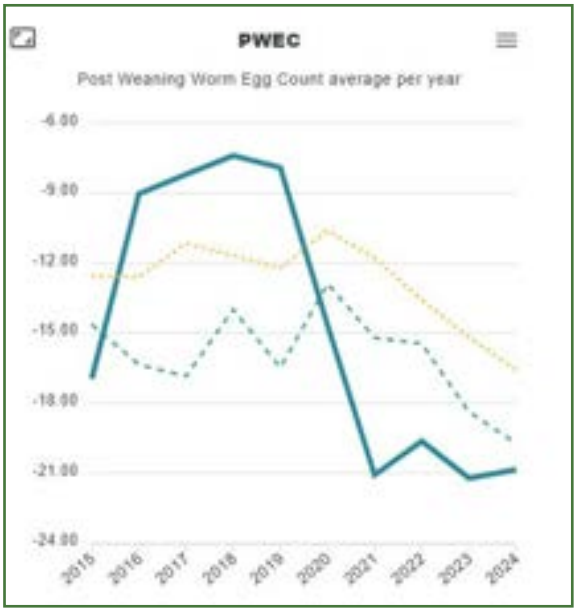
Below is a list of rams used in our 2025 AI Programs:

Sire	PWWT	YWT	PFAT	PEMD	YCFW	YFD	YSL	EBWR	LDAG	PFEC	WR	SM	IMF
232635	7.5	10.0	0.3	1.8	23.9	-2.5	12.1	-0.9	-0.6	-16.0	0.15	163	-0.7
232733	10.1	12.4	0.0	0.4	27.7	-1.8	11.3	-1.0	-0.4	-56.8	0.11	165	-0.9
233079	8.3	9.6	1.1	2.3	17.2	-0.6	14.4	-1.3	-0.9	-68.8	0.15	160	0.1
233397	10.1	13.6	0.4	1.1	18.3	-2.9	10.7	-0.8	-0.5	-45.0	0.09	153	-0.5
233461	10.2	12.9	0.3	0.9	28.0	-1.5	17.4	-1.1	-0.3	-60.5	0.16	172	-0.7
B230022	6.0	7.1	1.8	1.9	25.5	-0.8	13.1	-0.8	-0.7	-79.0	0.32	165	1.1

AI Program Rams

Update on Worms

In 2019 we first undertook large scale individual Worm Egg Counts, we understood it was a big issue for many areas of Australia. As a seedstock producer we felt the obligation to supply information on our product and help the commercial producers with building worm resistance. This meant a total change in our stud sheep enterprise, lambing was brought earlier, to then enable time for weaned animals to be placed under a high worm burden in the spring at the Willalooka property. Breeding wise from then, we have taken the approach of not using anything that is bad for Worm Resistance (PWEC). We use the "PWEC" ASBV as we test the animals at Post Weaning stage, for us it the most accurate. Below is our genetic trend for PWEC, clearly illustrating how we have been able to shift our flock.



White Suffolks

At Leahcim we continually strive to achieve a supply of terminal sires that benefit everyone in the prime lamb industry. From the commercial producer, the processor and then the consumer. Below is a snapshot of how Leahcim White Suffolk Genetics are performing:

Sparks Farming - Canowie Belt

Sparks Farming swapped to Leahcim White Suffolk genetics 4 years ago. The reason for the change was a curiosity to see if we could increase our overall performance of our prime lambs.

We lamb in August / September with the idea of producing heavyweight lambs for the export market. We shear our lambs in late January then move them into our feedlot, subject to paddock feed, late January / February.

This year's results have been fantastic. We have managed to gain with the assistance of Leahcim White Suffolk rams an increase in our average dressing percentage of 1.9% over our complete drop. We have focused on purchasing rams with good structure, visual muscle characteristics and eye appeal. Along with the EBV's we look for breed leading EMD figures and not too positive in fat.

Sparks Farming XB Lambs

This has resulted in our 2024 drop White Suffolk / Merino cross lambs averaging over the 1995 head a dressing of 46.8% of a full weight with January skin length. Equalling an average weight of 33.4 kgs dressed with an average of 12.5 weeks in our feedlot. The heaviest draft of 384 head sold in early May, averaged 84.6kgs full (15 weeks on feed) and dressed at an export works at 39.3kgs which equalled 46.5% from full weight. Increasing our dressing percentage has equalled an extra 1.4kgs dressed and with lamb prices being currently very strong, it's had a valued impact to our bottom line. We don't think we need to breed the biggest lambs, we just want them to have plenty of muscle.

Leahcim White Suffolk Breeding Program

To continue to provide high performing genetics, we source industry leading genetics to use in an AI program alongside the best of our own genetics. These are targeted to be used over our best ewes to achieve a great outcome. With the added benefit of using Matesel to ensure our breeding direction is achieved while minimising inbreeding.

Below is a list of rams, some of whom will be on display at Bendigo Sheep and wool show, and feature in our on property ram sale. These rams were all used as ram lambs in the ewe lamb mating. Felix ram 211239 was a great infusion of genetics particularly for his eating quality traits. He is +0.9 IMF and -3.06 for ShearF5, a little bit lower on PWWT, but we had the ewes that could benefit from his uses in the 2024 drop AI program.

Tag	Sire	BWT	WWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	IMF	SHRF5	DRESS	TCP	LEQ
240062	F211239	0.1	13.2	21.1	0.7	4.0	0.3	-0.9	4.1	172	175
240122	F211239	0.1	12.9	20.1	1.0	4.5	0.1	0.8	4.0	170	172
240123	F211239	0.0	11.1	17.8	1.1	5.2	-0.1	-1.5	4.0	168	170
240132	F211239	0.1	12.4	20.1	1.0	4.4	0.4	-1.5	4.5	174	179
240420	200035	0.3	13.3	21.3	0.5	4.4	-0.4	0.5	4.1	174	170
240483	220087	0.5	12.9	20.3	-0.2	4.3	-0.6	1.8	4.0	173	166

At the time this is written the 2025 White Suffolks have begun to lamb. Along with the ram lambs used that are highlighted above, the below rams will also feature in the sire list at next years sale:

Tag	Sire	BWT	WWT	PWWT	PFAT	PEMD	IMF	SHRF5	DRESS	TCP	LEQ
V230162	V200040	0.2	10.1	15.6	1.3	5.2	0.9	-4.1	4.5	169	177
230594	200035	0.4	13.1	20.2	0.1	4.3	-0.4	1.1	4.0	172	167
230593	200035	0.4	12.7	19.7	0.2	3.6	-0.2	-0.8	3.4	169	168
230589	200094	0.3	11.6	17.5	-0.4	2.9	0.0	-1.0	2.9	162	164
230415	200563	0.1	11.8	19.1	-0.6	4.7	-1.0	1.6	4.4	177	164
230020	210473	0.2	11.6	17.7	0.1	4.8	-0.6	2.4	3.5	167	160
220305	L160625	0.4	13.4	20.4	-0.9	2.3	0.1	2.0	2.9	160	161
220103	L160625	0.5	12.9	18.7	-0.8	2.8	-0.1	-1.4	3.1	168	163

Classings Classic 2024

It was great offering genetics at Classings Classic after a number of years being absent. The rewards for Leahcim and many other studs with great ASBV's data, backed up with high accuracies was an extremely positive result . Multi-vendor sales without ASBV's can be challenging with feed and management variation often influencing sales, Classings Classic support of Sheep Genetics data makes it the BEST multi-vendor sale in Australia. Leahcim's two feature sires 233079 and 232733 found homes with studs targeting genetics for different purposes.

Leahcim 233079 was sold for $36,000 to Westwood Poll (Scott Welke) WA with semen shares to Nepowie (Cameron White) WA and Boorana (Will Lynch) VIC. Leahcim 233079 has been entered in the 2025 South Australian Sire Evaluation trial and the 2025 Balmoral trial. 233079 has created an enormous amount of interest within the sheep industry due to his animal welfare traits, carcase performance and meat quality combined with balanced wool performance.

Leahcim 232733 was sold for $27,000 to Stonewolf Pastoral (Whiting family) WA. Leahcim 232733 was selected for high quality wool production, meat and animal welfare ASBV's suitable for a high rainfall climate.

Leahcim 233079 Data

ASBV	Figure	Top %
PWEC	-67.74	5%
EBWR	-1.33	1%
LDAG	-0.87	5%
PWT	8.28	5%
DRESS	1.83	10%
PEMD	2.29	5%
SF5	-4.19	1%
IMF	0.04	20%

Leahcim 232733 Data

ASBV	Figure	Top %
PWEC	-54.99	10%
EBWR	-0.97	20%
LDAG	-0.36	20%
PWT	10.20	20%
YCFW	27.85	20%
YFD	-1.82	20%
YDCV	-1.36	30%

Leahcim 2024 Sales

Leahcim Poll Merino

Sale Summary

	2024	2023
Offered	300	300
Sold	296	300
Top	$21,000	$8,000 x3
Average	$2,337	$2,619

Thank you to all clients for purchasing Leahcim Genetics

Pictured is the $21,000 top priced ram purchased by Lukin Springs Poll Merino Stud with Gordon Wood and Tom Allen (Nutrien), Alistair Michael (Leahcim) and Paul Goerling (Lukin Springs)

Leahcim White Suffolk

Sale Summary

	2024	2023
Offered	136	134
Sold	136	134
Top	$5,000	$10,000
Average	$1,229	$1,161

Thank you to all clients for purchasing Leahcim Genetics

Pictured is the $5,000 top priced ram purchased by Lukin Springs Poll Merino Stud with Gordon Wood and Tom Allen (Nutrien) and Alistair Michael (Leahcim).

Leahcim Wool - "Farm to Yarn to You"

Our short journey with our branded woollen products has been nothing short of amazing. When we had our first bale processed in Australia (for Rosemary's own interest and use) into craft yarn, Rosemary wove her first scarf. We then realised the years of work with Dr Jim Watts, skin test data collection and selection implementation, wool data collection, visual classing and use of genetic breeding values all helped create a wonderful, fully traceable natural woollen product.

Once people saw and felt the product, they then wanted to purchase the craft yarns or hand made products Rosemary made. From our first bale processed, we have now had 10 tonne processed into a much larger range of craft yarns and knitted products. Leahcim woollen products have been sold at craft market and through our online store with many sales to overseas countries. People love the providence story, it's the wool off our sheep, fully traceable through a genomics test, highest animal welfare credentials, fully processed in Australia, NO synthetics added, and the hand dying of the craft yarns in the shearing shed.

After LambEx last year we were very fortunate to have Dr Anneline Padayachee (key note speaker at the conference), who is one of the world's most respected Food Scientist & Nutritionists spend 4 hours sitting at the kitchen table discussing food and animal nutrition and welfare, world environment, myths regarding Methane emissions and carbon neutrality. The most telling discussion was Anneline's positive views on the benefit of Merino sheep for meat, wool that is greater than 50% carbon, fully degradable and is NOT destroying the environment like we are seeing with micro plastics. There has been much written lately regarding micro plastic with the effects on the ocean, human and animal absorption, Anneline was extremely concerned.

When displaying and selling our wool we have a large age demographic with a passion for wool with many interesting comments. The Leahcim Wool " Farm to Yarn to You" experience has given our family an even greater appreciation of the amazing products that can be made out of that NATURAL fibre.

Hummocks Station

Since our last newsletter Hummocks Station has continued to be a popular destination. In September we launched an online booking system. This has proven to be very successful with the majority of our bookings now being made online.

However, It is with apprehension and excitement that we announce Hummocks Station is now on the market! The apprehension comes when we think of all the hours of blood, sweat and tears that went into the planning and development of a project we knew nothing about. Then to see Hummocks Station grow into a destination where so many families and friends gather together from all over Australia and even international, lots of guests returning many times, and so many of you making beautiful, lasting memories. We will certainly miss the connections we have made!

Our excitement comes firstly, with the thought of lightening our work load a little and secondly, leaving a legacy of something we feel extremely proud of that will be here for everyone to continue to enjoy, and many more people to discover in the years to come!

For now though, it is most definitely business as usual!

Leahcim

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