



# BINDAWARRA MERINO STUD

*"Profitable sheep for all areas"*

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Autumn Update

May 2014

## BINDAWARRA NEWS

### Hat – Trick for Bindawarra



At the recent Gippsland Sheep Breeders Association wether trial, we were just lucky enough to win the 2012-2014 overall trial by only \$1.07. Our average wool value was \$71.14 for the 2014 shearing which secured us second place, however our carcass value was \$74.48 which gave us the title, showing once again that Bindawarra sheep also have a valuable role to play in meat production as well as excellent wool quality. This is the third GSBA overall title we have won. Last year we came third overall in the 2011- 2013 North East wether trial. The wethers in these trials were from our commercial flock (born prior to purchasing the stud).

We received the Jim Stewart Memorial Trophy.

### Educational Tour

Two of our staff, Bec Heggaton, our farm worker and Danielle Danuser, one of our rouseabouts expressed interest in finding out what happens to the wool once it leaves the farm. They accompanied us to a recent Rodwells Wool Sale where we were given an extensive tour of the wool store. They were made aware that the decisions that are made in the shearing shed have repercussions on the show floor.

We then went to the Wool Selling Centre to watch the auctioneers in action, viewing some Bindawarra



wool on the Elders/Landmark Show floor. We also viewed the dump, where 3 bales are compressed into one bale for shipping to China. Bec and Danielle now have an appreciation of the whole wool selling process and will be able to apply their knowledge in the shearing shed.



## Sale Rams 2014



Last year's rams in yards

This year's sale rams have been weighed, shorn, and the fleeces weighed. Already some outstanding young rams have been identified, particularly from the Bindawarra 358 and 37 families, which are descendants of Bindawarra 400.

A limited number of poll rams will again be available for purchase this season.

## Fleecing the Competitions

Steve and Megan again entered fleeces in various shows last year. Megan won the schools award at the Australian Sheep and Wool Show (photo on left) whilst Steve placed second in



his section at the Royal Melbourne Show and was awarded the Henry W. Hopkins Memorial Award for the highest points for a first time entrant (photo on right).

Bindawarra fleeces also won major prizes at the Sale, Yarram and Bairnsdale Shows.



## Dates to remember:

- *Open Day -  
9th July 2014*
- *Hamilton Sheepvention -  
5th August 2014*
- *Bairnsdale Ram Sale -  
2nd September 2014*

## AI Program and Lambing News

We have taken the opportunity to purchase 25 registered poll stud ewes from the Middle View dispersal sale. Some of these have already lambled unexpectedly. Our existing poll ewes were AI'd to a ram from Pastora (NSW).

The current warm May weather has been favourable for lambing with quite a considerable number of twins and triplets. As we are only part way through lambing, we hope the mild conditions continue.

## Fire Thanks

Many thanks to all the local people who attended the fire on our farm on February 9th. Your prompt actions and assistance was very much appreciated.

*“Good timber does not grow with ease. The stronger the wind, the stronger the trees”*

- J. William Marriot