

## 8 GREAT REASONS TO USE NERSTANE RAMS

### ONE

We have, and continue to strive for, accurate and predictable figures showing genetic progress

### TWO

Nerstane has many Central Test Sire Evaluation trait leader results which show profitability and predictability

### THREE

There are many Nerstane sires ranked in the Top 50 Sire List in Merino Superior Sires

### FOUR

We have proven fleece rot resistance (proven over many years)

### FIVE

We are a large stud starting with big numbers and culling heavily on conformation and figures therefore we are able to sell high-quality numbers of even progeny every year

### SIX

We are breeding a type of sheep that is large enough for any type of cross breeding enterprise

### SEVEN

Our independently-classed tops to culls ratios in Central Test over many years are industry leading, therefore you will be selling more higher quality surplus sheep

### EIGHT

We have consistent success over many years in the show ring, again proving that we have the subjective animals not just the "good numbers"

*We wish you all the best  
for a very successful and  
enjoyable 2018*

FROM THE MCLAREN FAMILY



## Nerstane Merino News

December 2017

The latest information on  
Nerstane Merino Stud's  
proven results and performance

### GREAT SUCCESS AT DUBBO

What a fantastic year Nerstane Merino Stud had in the Show Ring!

Nerstane had the best Dubbo showing since beginning to travel the five hours west many years ago.

The stud was proud to win the grand champion ram and the grand champion ewe of the whole show.

Both of these sheep nearly did the same thing in Bendigo, but the ram was pipped at the post by a massive Poll ram from WA.

Six weeks later at Dubbo however the ram N73, went one better and he was awarded the NSW Ram of the Year.

That night in front of a large crowd at the cocktail party, N73 was unanimously voted by the five judges as **2017 Australian Supreme Merino Ram!**

N73 was also one of our highest ranking hoggets on Sheep Genetics with a really good set of balanced figures which Nerstane continues to strive for.

To have rams that can prove themselves both in the show ring and have high performance figures is what it is all about.

There is semen available for sale.



Hamish, John and Jock with the Grand Champion Ram and Ewe of the Dubbo National Show



John, Jock, Michael Peden, Grantley Mullan, Peter Stockman, Hamish, Simon Bahr and Alex Wilson after the judging at Dubbo 2017.

**On Property Sale Friday 26th January 2018**

Visit [www.nerstane.com.au](http://www.nerstane.com.au) for a full catalogue or call 0429 772 778



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## SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

Nerstane had a very successful Sydney Royal Show winning the Tom Culley Award for Supreme Junior Exhibit of the Show with N170. He was a son of N231 who was sold to Coryule Merino Stud in 2015.

N170 then took out the Production class in the under 4 tooth section, cutting 12.6 kg of 16.7 micron wool with a 2.2 SD. His fleece was valued at \$227.22 and that was back in April.

The progeny of N170 at Nerstane are looking very good and there is semen available for sale. Please contact us if interested.



Jock holding N170 after winning Supreme Junior Merino at Sydney Royal Easter Show 2017

### New England Merino Field Days January 13th 2018

Please come and inspect new sires and their progeny on property at Nerstane.

## PREDICTABLE GROUPS

Consistency and Predictability in the Groups is what every stud is striving for as it is a true evaluation of type, depth of breeding, and structure.

Last year at Bendigo (2016) Nerstane won the prestigious Lionel Weatherly Trophy for the best group of 5 merino sheep, consisting of 3 rams and 2 ewes.

This year the stud came home with a third ribbon, which was still very positive. The most pleasing thing for Nerstane was that the majority of sheep from the two studs that were above in the placings, were all sired or grand sired by Nerstane rams.

Langdene Stud who won the trophy this year and Trefusis Stud from Tasmania, were both heavily influenced by Nerstane genetics in all of their sheep which made it a lot easier to swallow when you are getting beaten by a bit of your own!

Congratulations to Garry from Langdene again and Georgie Wallace from Trefusis.

## NERSTANE SEMEN CLIENTS TOPPING DUBBO SALE

Two rams made it to the \$50,000 mark at the Dubbo National Sale this year and both had Nerstane blood.

Jock MacRae from Eilan Donan Stud in Victoria made \$52,500 when he sold his ram "Harvey" who was out of a N318 ewe, and Garry Cox from Langdene Stud sold 151567 for \$50,000 who was by Nerstane's prolific old sire N4636.

Congratulations to both the MacCrae and Cox families.

## STUD CONSULTANT - ANDREW CALVERT'S COMMENT



One of my goals after being appointed Stud advisor three years ago was to work on improving bone and structure. I figured there was little one could do to further improve the wool quality Nerstane had become renowned for.

After all, years of relentless testing, sire evaluation, showing and selling genetics to all parts of Australia, South America and New Zealand the wools had to be pretty good anyway.

It was obvious to me that if we set about to really focus on structure and bone the trade-off will lead to further improving the wool cutting ability and productivity of the Nerstane sheep. The challenge was where to go to achieve this - Nerstane had already had considerable success with impact Sire Charinga Junior 119.

In July 2015 at Bendigo a young Charinga Ram 140975 by Buddy 23 out of Junior 119 ewe was

identified and purchased for \$20,000. Billy as he is known is a long bodied Sire with excellent structure, he stands square and wide behind. His first progeny are very promising and you will see many in the Sale in January, importantly a number have made it into the Reserves as well.

The Polls continue to evolve and improve; as with the horns, structure and bone carrying true to type Nerstane wool is the focus. Breeding predictable sheep consistently is what we are trying to achieve. There will be 50+ Poll Rams in the Sale.

There is a lot of passion that goes into the breeding at Nerstane and it was great to witness them taking out the Australian Ram of the Year at Dubbo this year amongst some very stiff competition.

I look forward to catching up with you in January at the NE Field Days or the on property sale and as always welcome your comments. If I can be of any assistance with advice on Ram selection please don't hesitate to contact me - 0418 130 155

## CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU

Nerstane would like to offer a big congratulations to all their clients that have continued to stick with merinos. It has been a long time coming to say the least but the last year and a half has been just shy of amazing.

There are certainly some terrific wool price stories of late, and by all accounts it may even get better!

Gross margins for an 18 micron self replacing ewe enterprise are, and should continue to be some of the best in agriculture.

If you are any finer, 16 and 17 micron fleece wools have doubled since January 2015!

## SHEARING TWICE IN A YEAR?

Nerstane is currently doing a trial shearing the wethers that are run in hill country twice in one year. Results look encouraging as there was enough length (67-71mm) to receive the premiums.

The wethers cut 4.09 kg in the first 6 months which was very pleasing especially during the cold months. So the future looks optimistic as these sheep should do even better over the warmer months. The wool was sold in July and it came back at \$52 gross.

Watch this space - as there has been a huge rise in wool prices since then and with the predicted extra kilograms, Nerstane is hopeful to be backing a winner! Contact Jock after February for full results.