



# Nerstane Merino News

January 2015

The latest information on Nerstane Merino Stud's Proven Results and Performance

## Profitable 'paddock' value of Nerstane genetics is proven again in 2014's Central Test Entries

**Nerstane believes that the true value of our genetics is how well they perform in other people's paddocks, in other people's businesses.**

**We like nothing better than to benchmark ourselves against the rest of the industry and to use the results to help other people make their merino operations more successful and profitable.**

We want our genetics to remain practical with a very high 'paddock' value. We will continue to go to the expense of entering our best rams in Central Test Sire Evaluation (CTSE) sites across Australia in different environments so we can prove to ourselves (and you!) that we are consistently up with the best in the business. Our Tops to Culls ratios are consistently the best or near the best in the industry and for this reason we can guarantee our product.

A perfect example of this was demonstrated during 2014 where Nerstane had four different sires compared in three completely different areas, and all performed very well.

This year you will be able to buy direct sons of these four proven CTSE sires in our On Property Sale – plus another six proven CTSE sires. Most of these proven sires have been trait leaders when they were entered, which gives you the predictability when selecting progeny of these elite genetics.

N919 was evaluated in Tasmania and was a standout for tops to culls ratio having been independently classed 30% of his progeny into the tops and -24% of his progeny classed as culls compared to the average. While only being one micron over the average, N919's progeny had 18% higher Clean Fleece Weight (CFW) than the rest of the group. Follow this link for the full results: [http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site\\_tas](http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site_tas) and go to 2013 drop 1st evaluation.

N958 and N13 were both benchmarked at the New England site east of Armidale. N958 performed excellently having the second best tops to culls ratio of the group, but when combining those visual traits with the fleece weights and micron

he was outstanding on all three indexes.

N13, who was a son of our 2011 Sydney Supreme Exhibit N318, also performed well having the second best tops to culls ratio and while only being 0.7 microns higher than the average his progeny's fleeces weighed 20% more in CFW than the average. Follow this link for the full results:

[http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site\\_new\\_england](http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site_new_england) and go to 2012 drop 1st and 2nd evaluation for N958 or 2013 drop 1st evaluation for N13.

N121 was compared in Victoria and did very well also on two of the indexes. He tested the finest of any of the entrants and was second best on WEC which he is also very good on at Nerstane. Follow this link for the full results:

[http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site\\_eldersvp](http://www.merinosuperiorsires.com.au/topic/site_eldersvp) and go to 2012 drop 1st and final evaluation.

**We welcome you to come and view the sires... at the very least, you'll have the opportunity to choose direct sons of 10 of these proven sires!**

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

On Property Sale  
Friday 30 January 2015

# Genetic potential and a bit of extra grass pushes everything in the right direction

The year before last, all of the Nerstane stud ewe lambs went onto rye grass for the winter and we really got paid for the trouble. As maidens this year, our lambing was over 100% which was a direct result of having the ewes in such

good order from the word go. It was decided to put enough rye grass in for all of the Nerstane weaners this year. From about April onwards and even with such a dry year here (and most of Northern NSW and nearly all of QLD) the results again have been outstanding. Our weathers dressed over 20 kg in early

November and realised \$88 as lambs after cutting 5 kg of wool in late September. Apparently this market is a lot better now as well. The surplus ewes the same age were sold on Auctions Plus (and all went to merino restockers which was even more pleasing) and averaged \$108. We were very happy!



LEFT TO RIGHT: WILL, ROD AND HARRY MILLER HOLDING 'HAZZA' AFTER WINNING GRAND CHAMPION FINE WOOL RAM AT BENDIGO

## Victorian Ram of the Year an N910 son

Congratulations to the Miller family from Glenpaen Merino Stud for breeding and exhibiting 'Hazza', the 2014 VIC Ram of the Year.

The ram won many local Supreme ribbons, Supreme at Campbell Town in TAS, and also took out the Fine Wool Grand Champion Ram at Bendigo. The N910 son was a triplet from one of their top performing ewes. By all accounts, he ran a close second in the Australian Ram of the Year at Dubbo later last year too.

Nerstane will be trying 'Hazza' out with some special ewes in 2015.

## Sydney Grand Champion is Nerstane bloodline

Another N910 son to grace the show mat this year was 'Grassy Creek 171' who was judged Grand Champion Fine Wool Ram at Canberra and Sydney Royal Easter Show in April.

GC171 was also judged Hogget Ram of the Year at Galong last year at South West field days. Congratulations to Mick and Janie and the boys and we hope he breeds on.



GRASSY CREEK MERINO STUD PRINCIPAL MICK CORKHILL HOLDING GC171 – THIS WILL BE THE THIRD TIME THAT GRASSY CREEK WILL BE USING N910 IN THEIR SIRE BATTERY



# Bendigo Champion is going to be sold

Negotiations between the Nerstane team and Coryule Merino Stud have finally finished on a great note after we were approached to put a price on our Bendigo Fine Medium Wool Champion March shorn Ram N231.

The ram was at that stage not for sale but manager of Coryule, Craig Trickey, insisted that they were serious. Craig also stressed that they wouldn't need the ram until after the Sydney Show which would enable Nerstane to still compete. So the deal has been done, the daughter stud of Nerstane, Coryule Merinos will take possession of the ram after Sydney. Nerstane have retained 50% semen rights and will continue handling all future semen sales.



**BENDIGO CHAMPION N231 – WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK RUSSELL AND TRISH SLOAN, CRAIG AND CINDY TRICKEY AND ALL AT THE CORYULE STUD FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR TOP END GENETICS**



**LEFT TO RIGHT: TOM AND RON SMALL WITH B310 SUPREME CHAMPION WOOL BREED ANIMAL OF THE CHRISTCHURCH SHOW**

## NZ success with Nerstane 910 son

Across the ditch in Christchurch, N910 was well worth mentioning again with the Blairach Stud's ram 310 winning Grand Champion Ram and then going on to win Supreme Merino, even beating a N910 daughter from Blairach. The two tooth ram from Blairach then went on to claim the Supreme Wool Sheep of the Show. Congratulations to Ron and Sue and newly hitched Tom and Claire Small on their rare achievement of the Ram and Ewe double.

## 10,000 Nerstane Blood Sheep up for Sale

Highly regarded sheep man, Tom Porter of Llanthro Pastoral Co, has sold his property due to illness and is having complete sheep dispersal on Monday 19 January. They will also be holding a plant and equipment dispersal the following week. Tom has been buying top end rams at Nerstane On Property sales since 1999, and has always concentrated on buying rams that were consistently 110% on Clean Fleece Weight or higher. There are over 4000 NSM merino ewes 4 years and under split into age groups and 2 drops of older ewes joined to Borders + 2 drops of wethers. The flock has been classed by Stuart Hodgson for 15 years and then Andrew Calvert more recently. John, Jock, and Hamish have all seen the Llanthro sheep at different times in the past and always went away especially proud to say they were "Nerstane blood". For more details, contact Tom on his mobile —0427 861255 or his agent Rob Handbury on 0429 131186 or visit [www.tdcpenola.com.au](http://www.tdcpenola.com.au). We wish Tom and his family all the best for the sale, and for his recovery.



JOCK HOLDING N191 AFTER WINNING CHAMPION FINE WOOL POLL RAM AT DUBBO NATIONAL IN AUGUST 2014

**WE WISH YOU ALL  
THE BEST FOR A  
SUCCESSFUL 2015**

**- FROM THE  
MCLAREN FAMILY**



## Nerstane's first Poll Ram performing well

We didn't want to take a Poll ram to the show unless he was a good one! We waited until last year and we think the wait was worth it. N191 had an extremely successful year in 2014 starting in January at the New England Field Days where he was judged the 'Ultimate Ram' out of a total of 38 entries. He weighed 117kg at 18 months, scanned 42 cm eye muscle and tested 17.8 microns, 2.4 SD with a comfort factor of 99.4%. N191 then went on to win Champion August shorn Poll Ram at Sydney Royal Easter

Show, Reserve Champion Fine Poll Ram at Bendigo and then Champion Fine Wool Poll Ram at Dubbo and won the Production Class as a 2 year old where the ram was shorn and scanned as well. N191 was weighing a massive 137kg, with a 42.5 cm eye muscle area and a fleece weight of 14.3 kg. His tests by then had hardly moved compared to his January test, 17.5 microns, 2.3 SD, 13.1 CV and 99.8% CF.

## New Advice for the Nerstane Team

The Nerstane team has acquired the services of renowned stud sheep classer Andrew Calvert, who will now be our Stud Consultant. Andrew's wealth of knowledge about the merino industry and his experience as a classer for many stud and commercial operations means that he will be a great sounding board for our future directions. We are all very excited about his new appointment!



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