



ROMNEY NZ NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

Council News

AGM – 2017

AGM – Wednesday 24 May 2017

**Location – The Coachman Hotel, 140 Fitzherbert Ave, West End,
Palmerston North 4410**

Breeders Forum – 4pm

AGM - 5pm

Drinks - 6pm

Dinner – 7pm

**(Please advise the office ph 03 3589 412 or email greg@nzsheep.co.nz
of numbers attending the dinner)**

**Thursday 25 May – Visit R Browns property, site of the MerialAncare
Romney NZ Progeny Test**

**Accommodation – If you require accommodation
please ring [06-356 5065](tel:06-356-5065)**

**Councillors retiring by rotation and seeking re-election – Messrs H L MacKay, J L Reeves,
D N Tennent, and M J Wyeth. A Council Nomination form is attached.**

**Merial Ancare Romney NZ Progeny Test - 10 breeders in this year's trial including Ike
Williams and Graham Senior from the South Island. Mating was 14 March for a cycle before
rams go home to be used.**

Transportation Costs Associated with the Progeny Test – All transportation costs associated with the Progeny Test will be reimbursed, and 50% of transportation costs will be reimbursed for linkages outside the Progeny Test relating to the 2016 mating. Please send your invoice into the office.

CPT - This year's entry in the Central Progeny Test is 'Anui 474/13' from Willy Philip.

Speakers at our recent Council Meeting – Messrs C McKenzie (CEO NZ Yarn) and S Liebergreen (Beef + Lamb NZ) addressed the meeting.

NZ Yarn

NZ Yarn is a private company co-owned by Carrfields Primary Wool Co-operative Limited (57%) and 40 wool growers and private investors. NZ Yarn manufactures and distributes woollen spun yarn for carpet and rug production worldwide. NZ Yarn currently consumes around 1.0 million Kg's of wool per annum and has plans to increase this volume significantly with business development initiatives opening new channels primarily in the North American soft flooring market.

We are now in a position to offer a Direct Wool Supply Contract to NZ Yarn via our sister company Carrfields Primary Wool.

We are looking for up to 100MT of scoured wool per month from 1 July 2017. We are prepared to pay a 30c premium above the current 37F1K market indicator in return for direct supply and 120 day payment terms. Additional premiums are available for lots that are guaranteed VM free.

Contact your local CPW (Carrfields Primary Wool) representative if you would like to know more about supply contracts, specifications, pricing and logistics.

Colin McKenzie Phone 03 358 5015 Mobile 027 292 4080 colin.mckenzie@nzyarn.co.nz

Beef + Lamb NZ -Progeny Test

The Romney MerialAncare Progeny Test focusses on terminal performance and the top performing ram is then submitted to the CPT. The point of the CPT is to enable better industry connectedness as well as identifying high performing genetics. Submitting any ram to the CPT will enable better connectedness (assuming appropriate use). However there seems to be a disconnect of sorts around testing a maternal breed of ram terminally and then submitting it to a second test, which is either maternally based (and therefore expected to benchmark against other maternally tested maternal rams) or terminally based (and therefore expected to benchmark against terminal rams).

It might be worth reflecting on this and considering whether the NZTW or NZMW Indexes be used to identify rams to be submitted to the CPT. Especially if an aspect of submitting a ram to the CPT by Romney NZ is to advertise/demonstrate high performing Romney genetics to

the industry as well as enabling connectedness. Reviewing the last few years NZTW and NZMW Indexes before and after each round of the CPT, relative to the rankings of other rams in the CPT for NZMW or NZTW might be useful when exploring this.

B+LNZ Genetics Roadshow

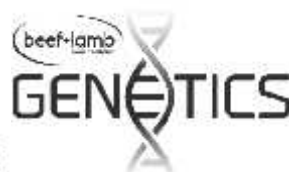
The BLG Roadshow was held at Gore, Waipawa, Darfield, Hamilton and Masterton and attracted about 100 attendees to talk through a number of SIL and CPT innovations. Some main themes to be discussed included:

- The NZGE vs other evaluations and determining whether improved connectedness or the inclusion of cross-bred progeny had any effect major on reranking. The presented data from a number evaluation examples demonstrated that while connectedness and the inclusion of cross-bred progeny were confounded and hard to separate, there was a high correlation between the NZGE and other evaluations. Animals of high merit were still animals of high merit and animals of low merit were still animals of low merit.
- Connectedness continues to play a significant role in effective genetic evaluation systems and breeders were reminded how to get connected for traits that were important to them and their ram buying customers
- Leader Lists are now generated from the NZGE with very similar criteria to previous years. Breeders can opt-out of leader lists should they wish to.
- The “Restricted Traits” and “Blanking” projects, while resulting in breeders having access to slightly less information, aims to ensure that breeders are making the best decisions possible when looking for outside sires from across flock evaluations.
- The National Breeding Objective has been recalculated and will be addressed in detail at the BLG Sheep Forum in June. There has been little change, which is good.
- BLG has vision for a better information platform that incorporates many of the disparate software tools and utilities that currently exist
- Breeders affirmed that Non-linear NLB should be something that is implemented in SIL so that rams with very unbalanced genetic profiles can be better managed

Connectedness Information

A pdf report will be sent to each participating flock.

We thank all our sponsors for their continued support and ask that you support them with their offers for Romney NZ members.



Benefits of Being a Member To Continue

Allflex, Tru-Test, and MerialAncare are continuing to support Romney NZ. The discounts below are a definite advantage to being a member of RNZ. Any orders will need to be placed through RNZ; we are not including any commission on these products to allow our members the full benefit.

A number of members have already taken advantage of these offers.

Allflex - Electronic Tags: When you purchase Rapid electronic tags they will be sold to you at cost. They will cost \$1.65 charged through Romney NZ. They are sold through Wrightsons and Farmlands, etc for \$1.75 and they normally add 20%. These are very good tags which are well proven now.



Tru-Test: Members can purchase Tru-Test products via Romney NZ – at cost. Their products include Tru-Test scales, readers, and load bars. If interested contact your local Tru-Test area sales manager.



MerialAncare: Purchase any 2 x 20L qualifying MerialAncare anthelmintic & receive a 5L FREE. Send proof of purchase to the office, and a MerialAncare representative will deliver your product.



Allflex Tags & Zee Tags – These tags continue to be charged to you through Romney NZ.



Malcolm Wyeth
President