

MP | MOORUNDIE P A R K

This year we undertook a ewe lamb joining project. This was a test of the early maturity and fertility of our sheep. After a good feed year in 2020 it felt like a good opportunity.

- 272 9 month old ewes were joined on 18/2/21, with an average weight of 53kg. Weight range from 48kg to 60kg. 10 ram lambs of the same age were used for joining.
- Reweighed 1/5/21 with an average of 70kg and a weight range of 60kg to 80kg.
- Scanned on 19/5/21. 85% conception. Wets scanned at 140%. They are still dropping so don't have final numbers of lambs marked.
- They were on self feeders from 31/1/21 until the point of lambing. Mixed grains: barley, oats and lupins. Unfortunately feed cost ended up being higher than expected with a late break.

This was a good exercise to see how quickly we could get young ewes up to a weight where they would join successfully. We think this joining has its place but may not necessarily work for everyone. It would be quite handy if you were looking to increase your numbers without importing any outside stock. From a breeding point of view there is also faster genetic gain. From a monetary point of view you need to weigh up what you think the sheep will sell for versus the cost of the grain and labour. We have an estimate of these figures and we will have these lambs marked by the sale, so we can talk final numbers with anyone who is interested.

The surplus young ewes (pictured), were sold in July for \$350 each to a long term client.



Monday 30th August: Open Day at Gulnare

**Friday 17th September: On Property Ram Sale Offering 180 Rams
Sale at 1pm, Inspection from 10am & Lunch at 12noon**

MP

Moorundie Park Sale Rams

Flock Profile Testing: for those that are going to undertake a Flock Profile Test, we will have genomics information available on all of our 2022 auction rams. This will help you in your selection if this is something that you choose. We will have someone at our sale who can talk you through this process if you are interested. All of this years ram lambs now have EIDs to assist in more efficient data collection.



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