



South Australia Merino Sire Evaluation Update 2025 Drop

This update offers a snapshot of the results collected so far on the South Australia 2025 Drop Sire Evaluation, which is a collaboration of Merino SA, local breeders, industry representatives and hosted by the Turretfield Research Centre, Rosedale. The 2025 progeny will be on display at a Field Day planned for mid 2026 with a full report published after being further assessed, including full wool measurements and classing at the yearling stage.

Explanation of Traits and Stage Codes Reported

WT:	Body weight (kg)
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BRWR:	Breech Wrinkle	BCOV:	Breech Cover
DAG:	Dag		

M	Marking - 14 to 39 days (2 to 6 weeks)
W	Weaning - 40 to 149 days (6 weeks to 5 months)
P	Post Weaning - 150 to 299 days (5 to 10 months)

Flock Breeding Values (FBVs) are also available in Sire Evaluation reports and are provided for the following traits. This includes records collected on all stages throughout the trial.

EBRWR:	Early Breech Wrinkle	EBCOV:	Early Breech Cover
EDAG:	Early Dag		

The highest performing 3 (or more if equal) sires for each trait (trait leaders) are highlighted by shading.

For further information in relation to Sire Evaluation please contact:

Ben Swain, AMSEA Executive Officer
0427 100 542
ben.swain@bcsagribusiness.com.au

Anna Cameron, Site Manager
0403 747 332
acameron@hsfe.com

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2025 Drop – Adjusted Sire Means

Weight

Breeders flock, Sire number	Number of Progeny	Adjusted Sire Means	
		WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)
Benefield Poll, 200055 (Link Sire)	34	19.7	42.4
Calcookara Poll, 220349	34	21.0	39.4
Curlew Poll, 220078	47	20.4	42.6
GullenGamble Poll, 230554	30	20.2	40.9
Leahcim Poll, 233079	34	20.1	43.1
Malleetech Poll, 233446	41	20.7	41.3
Mumblebone, 233720	44	20.5	42.4
North Ashrose Poll, 220689	41	20.7	42.1
O'Brien Poll, 230173	35	20.9	44.6
Pimbena Poll, 220611	42	20.7	45.0
Richmond, 220339	43	19.8	43.0
Progeny group average	39	20.4 kg	42.5 kg

Number of Progeny is at Weaning

Adjusted Sire Means are the average performance of all the progeny of a sire adjusted for the progeny's birth type, rear type, age of dam, management group and the number of progeny a sire has in the analysis. Adjustments improve the accuracy of the result and adjustments are based on the actual influence of these factors on the drop. No account is made for trait heritability and genetic correlations between traits. The overall progeny group mean is also reported.

2025 Drop – Adjusted Sire Means

Visual Traits

Breeders flock, Sire number	Number of Progeny	Breech Scores		
		Marking		Post Weaning
		BRWR	BCOV	DAG
Benefield Poll, 200055 (Link Sire)	34	1.9	3.9	1.6
Calcookara Poll, 220349	34	2.2	3.5	2.4
Curlew Poll, 220078	47	2.2	3.4	1.6
GullenGamble Poll, 230554	30	2.0	3.7	2.3
Leahcim Poll, 233079	34	1.9	3.7	1.9
Malleetech Poll, 233446	41	2.0	3.6	2.3
Mumblebone, 233720	44	2.0	3.6	2.4
North Ashrose Poll, 220689	41	2.3	3.6	2.3
O'Brien Poll, 230173	35	2.0	3.9	2.2
Pimbenas Poll, 220611	42	2.2	3.6	2.0
Richmond, 220339	43	1.8	3.5	1.5
Progeny group average	39	2.1	3.6	2.0

Number of Progeny is at Weaning

Adjusted Sire Means are the average performance of all the progeny of a sire adjusted for the progeny's birth type, rear type, age of dam, management group and the number of progeny a sire has in the analysis. Adjustments improve the accuracy of the result and adjustments are based on the actual influence of these factors on the drop. No account is made for trait heritability and genetic correlations between traits. The overall progeny group mean is also reported.

2025 Drop – Flock Breeding Values

Weight

Breeders flock, Sire number	Number of Progeny	Flock Breeding Values	
		WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)
Benefield Poll, 200055 (Link Sire)	34	-1.4	-1.0
Calcookara Poll, 220349	34	0.5	-4.6
Curlew Poll, 220078	47	-0.5	0.1
GullenGamble Poll, 230554	30	-1.1	-1.7
Leahcim Poll, 233079	34	0.5	1.0
Malleetech Poll, 233446	41	0.8	-1.9
Mumblebone, 233720	44	-0.4	0.0
North Ashrose Poll, 220689	41	0.2	-0.7
O'Brien Poll, 230173	35	0.9	3.5
Pimbena Poll, 220611	42	0.9	3.5
Richmond, 220339	43	-0.6	1.7

Number of Progeny is at Weaning

FBVs are calculated from data recorded within-site and within-drop and express the expected genetic performance of a sire relative to another sire in the evaluation (when mated to the same standard of ewes). FBVs improve the accuracy of sire results because they account for the association between traits, the heritability of the trait, and non-genetic affects such as birth and rear type, sex (see adjustments listed earlier), and the number of progeny a sire has in the analysis. FBVs are calculated using all measured assessments up to the stage which is reported.

2025 Drop – Flock Breeding Values

Visual Traits

Breeder's flock, Sire number	Number of Progeny	Flock Breeding Values		
		EBRWR	EBCOV	EDAG
Benefield Poll, 200055 (Link Sire)	34	-0.38	0.56	-0.31
Calcookara Poll, 220349	34	0.25	-0.16	0.26
Curlew Poll, 220078	47	0.26	-0.49	-0.32
GullenGamble Poll, 230554	30	-0.14	0.09	0.15
Leahcim Poll, 233079	34	-0.23	0.14	-0.07
Malleetech Poll, 233446	41	-0.04	-0.06	0.16
Mumblebone, 233720	44	-0.07	-0.13	0.25
North Ashrose Poll, 220689	41	0.52	-0.10	0.16
O'Brien Poll, 230173	35	-0.04	0.42	0.14
Pimbena Poll, 220611	42	0.32	-0.04	-0.01
Richmond, 220339	43	-0.44	-0.23	-0.43

Number of Progeny is at Weaning

FBVs are calculated from data recorded within-site and within-drop and express the expected genetic performance of a sire relative to another sire in the evaluation (when mated to the same standard of ewes). FBVs improve the accuracy of sire results because they account for the association between traits, the heritability of the trait, and non-genetic affects such as birth and rear type, sex (see adjustments listed earlier), and the number of progeny a sire has in the analysis. FBVs are calculated using all measured assessments up to the stage which is reported.