

South Australia Merino Sire Evaluation Results Update – 2019 Drop

This update is a snapshot of results from the 2019 Drop at the South Australian trial hosted by the McMahon Family at McPiggery, Lameroo. This trial is a collaboration between Merino SA, local breeders, and industry representatives. The 2019 Drop will be showcased at a Field Day later in 2020, and a full report will be published following further assessment, including full wool measurements and classing, at the Yearling age stage.

2019 Sire List

Anderson Poll, 160390	Greenfields Poll, 160079	Leahcim Poll, 173114	Pimbena Poll, 170509
Calcookara Poll, 170400	Gunallo Poll, 170295	Malleetech Poll, 177141	Ridgway Poll, 170005
Challara Poll, 150245	Hilton Heath Poll, 150819	Moorundie Poll, NE73	Roemahkita Poll, 160018
Flairdale Poll, 170070	Kelvale Poll, 170004	Pepper Well Poll, 177031	Wallaloo Park Poll, 172070

2019 Drop Results

This update gives the results for the 2019 Sires. Assessments are undertaken at particular age stages for a variety of traits. Explanation of these stages and traits are listed below.

Age at Assessment:	
M = Marking - 14 to 42 days	P = Post Weaning - 210 to 300 days
W = Weaning - 42 to 120 days	
Traits: Abbreviation, trait and the (units reported)	
WT: Body weight (kg)	BRWR: Breech Wrinkle (Score between 1&5)
EMD: Eye muscle depth (mm) at the 'C' site	BCOV: Breech Cover (Score between 1&5)
FAT: Fat depth (mm) at the 'C' site	<i>Visual Trait scores based on the Visual Sheep Scores Publication.</i>
Trait Leaders:	
The highest performing 3 (or more if equal) sires for each trait (trait leaders) are highlighted by shading . Approx 10%.	

Adjusted Sire Means

Adjusted Sire Means are the average performance of all the progeny of a sire adjusted for an individual's birth type, rear type, age of dam and management group. Adjustments improve the accuracy of the result and the size of the adjustment is 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 listed at the bottom of the table.

Flock Breeding Values (FBVs)

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 further improve the accuracy of sire results because they not only account for non-genetic effects such as birth type, rear type and sex (as in Adjusted Sire Means), but also the number of progeny a sire has in the analysis, the association between traits and the heritability of the trait.

Visual Trait Assessments

Progeny are scored, between 1 and 5, on a range of visual traits which are **reported as deviations from the average score** (see page 1). The 2019 drop were scored at marking for BRWR and BCOV.

Breeders flock, Sire number	Progeny No @ Weaning	Birth Type		Adjusted Sire Means				Flock Breeding Values				Visual Trait Scores	
		Singles %	Multiples %	WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)	PEMD (mm)	PFAT (mm)	WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)	PEMD (mm)	PFAT (mm)	MBRWR	MBCOV
Anderson Poll, 160390	42	52	48	30.8	50.5	30.9	3.3	1.0	1.9	2.0	0.6	-0.3	-0.4
Calcookara Poll, 170400	35	31	69	29.8	49.6	29.1	3.0	-0.1	1.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.2	0.2
Challara Poll, 150245	48	29	71	29.9	47.4	30.5	3.3	-0.6	-1.7	1.6	0.7	0.1	0.0
Flairdale Poll, 170070	39	49	51	29.3	46.6	28.0	2.9	-1.2	-2.6	-2.1	-0.7	0.1	0.0
Greenfields Poll, 160079	46	50	50	30.2	46.5	28.4	2.9	-0.2	-2.3	-1.6	-0.6	0.4	0.3
Gunallo Poll, 170295	26	50	50	30.2	50.4	29.0	3.1	0.5	1.7	-0.8	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Hilton Heath Poll, 150817	51	47	53	29.7	47.4	28.9	3.1	-0.7	-1.5	-0.8	-0.1	0.0	0.3
Kelvale Poll, 170004	55	33	67	29.0	47.5	31.0	3.1	-1.6	-1.5	2.2	0.1	-0.5	-0.3
Leahcim Poll, 173114	39	51	49	31.5	50.2	30.6	3.2	1.7	1.6	1.5	0.5	-0.2	0.0
Malleetech Poll, 177141	45	40	60	28.7	45.4	30.0	3.1	-2.1	-4.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2
Moorundie Poll, NE73	29	72	28	31.0	48.4	28.2	3.0	0.9	-0.8	-1.6	-0.4	0.1	0.0
Pepper Well Poll, 177031	42	43	57	29.5	48.4	29.4	3.2	-0.7	-1.0	-0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Pimbena Poll, 170509	40	47	53	31.6	53.7	28.5	3.1	2.5	5.7	-1.4	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2
Ridgway Poll, 170005	50	46	54	30.4	50.5	30.1	3.2	0.5	1.5	0.9	0.4	-0.3	-0.2
Roemahkita Poll, 160018	37	49	51	30.5	48.7	29.5	3.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.3	0.1
Wallaloo Park Poll, 172070	42	45	55	29.7	49.6	29.7	3.2	-0.1	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0
Mean	42	45	55	30.1	48.8	29.5	3.1	-	-	-	-	1.7	1.8