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for

Premium

Quality

Wool

Estimating Follicle and Fibre Density and S/P Ratio

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
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Traditional estimation of follicle and fibre density

- Follicle and fibre numbers are counted in a known area at the level of the sebaceous gland (C-D)
 - allows calculation of number of follicles or fibres per unit area of skin
 - identification of P and S follicles
 - unable to identify branched follicles at this level

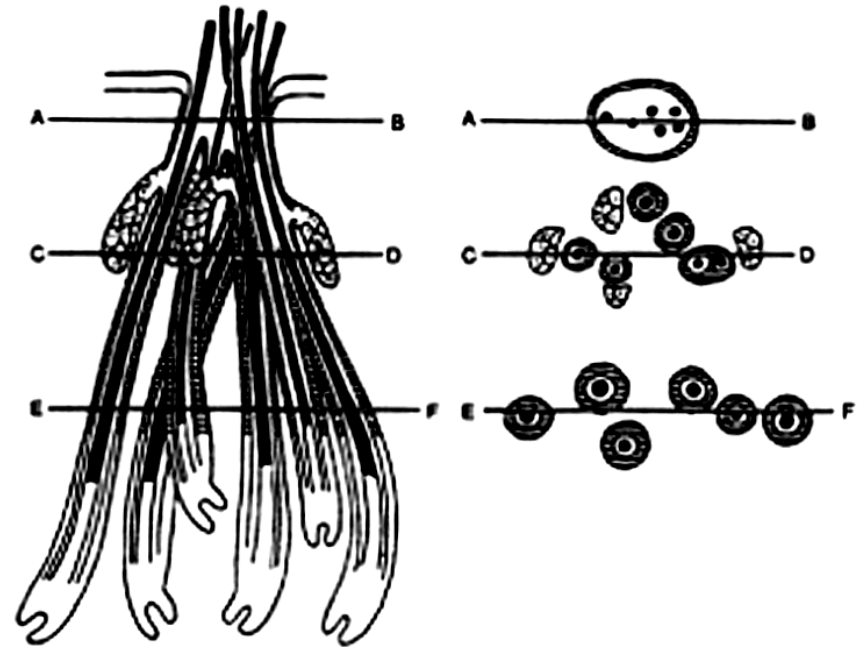
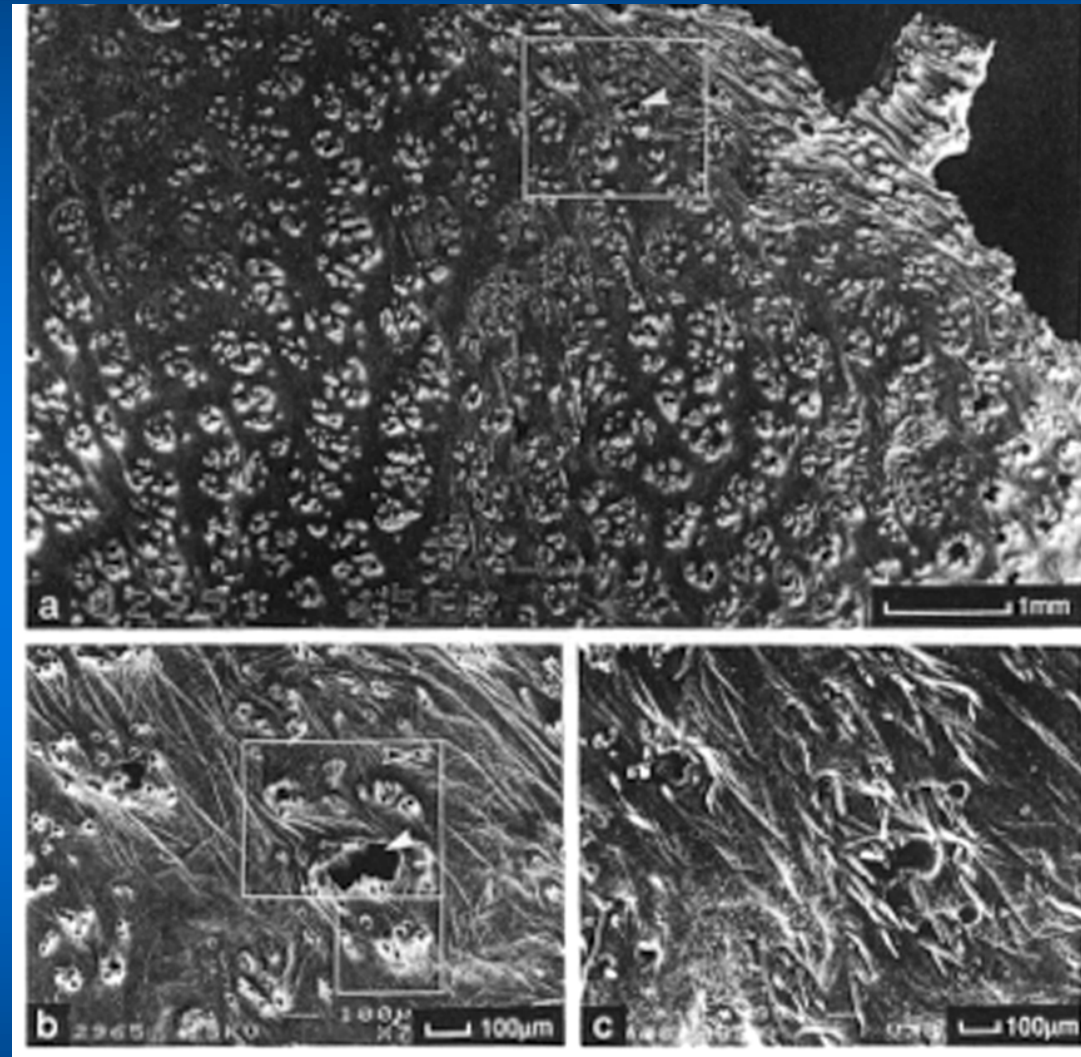


Fig. 3. Diagrammatic longitudinal and transverse sections at several different levels (A—B, C—D and E—F) through a bundle of six fully developed secondary follicles in the Merino (see Fig. 4 by Hardy and Lyne 1956a).



Non-destructive techniques

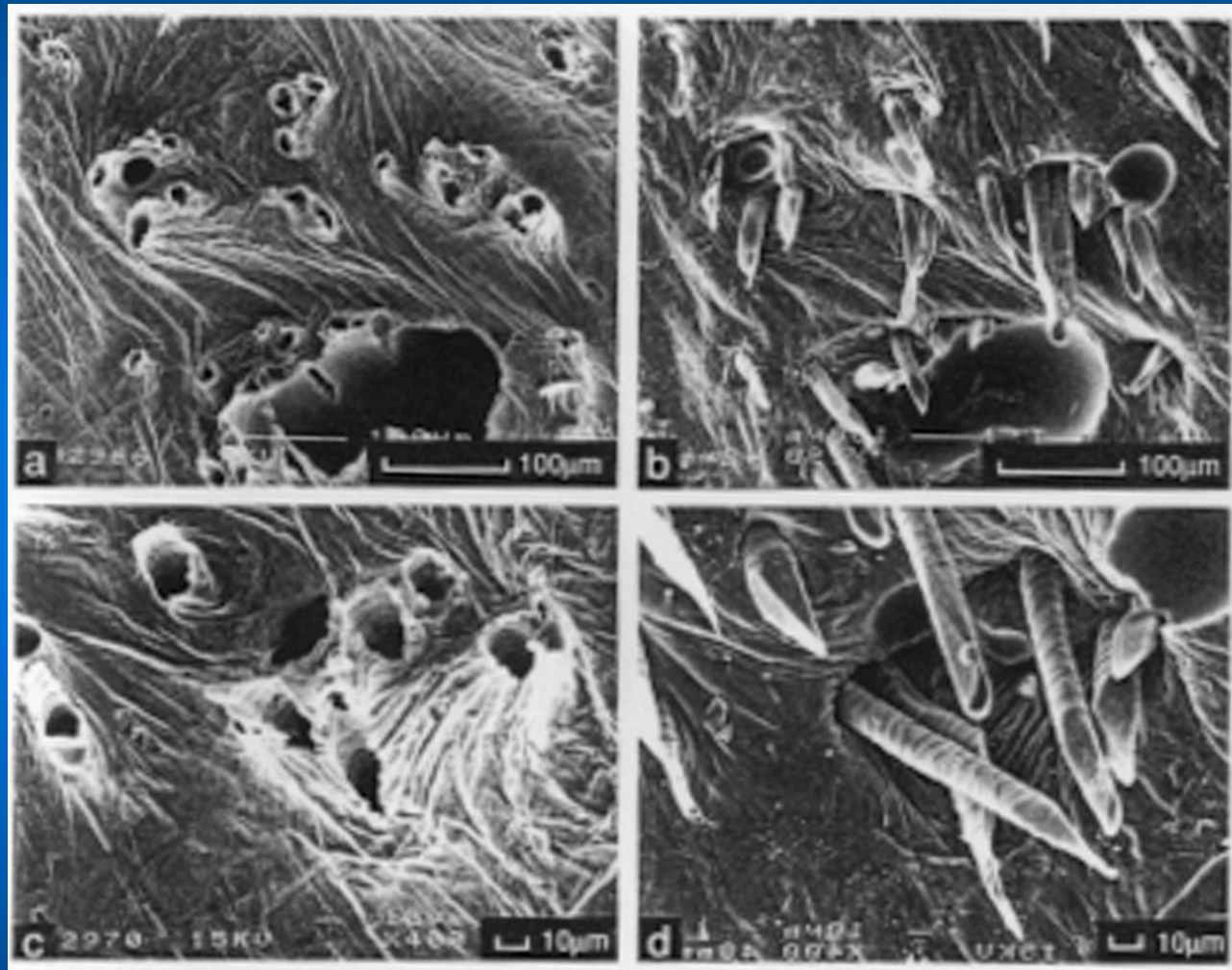
- uses SEM images of impressions of skin surface
 - inexpensive
 - allows identification of original and branched secondary follicles



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Negative and positive skin replicas



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S:P

Ratio of secondary to primary follicles

- S:P is used when there are changes in skin area occurring
- S:P is used to describe
 - secondary follicle initiation,
 - changes in the secondary follicle population
- Major assumption is that P follicle population does not change after 100 days of gestation