

Bioclip - A wool biology success story

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by; Dr. Anthony Schlink, CSIRO Animal Production.

www.woolwise.com



for

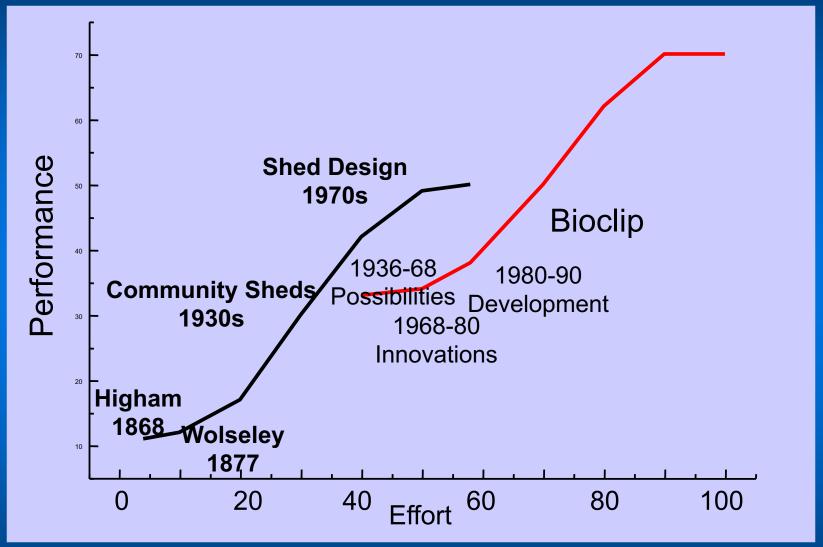
Premium

Quality

Wool

© 1999, Wool CRC

Biological wool harvesting





Wool harvesting:

From this....

to this.....

CRC

for

Premium

Quality

Wool

© 1999, Wool CRC



Manual shearing



Bioclip

Anthony Schlink



Advantages of biological wool harvesting

- no second cuts
- eliminates skin wounds and some bruising
- reduction in external parasites
- reduction in shearing equipment requirements
- use of unskilled labour



for

Premium

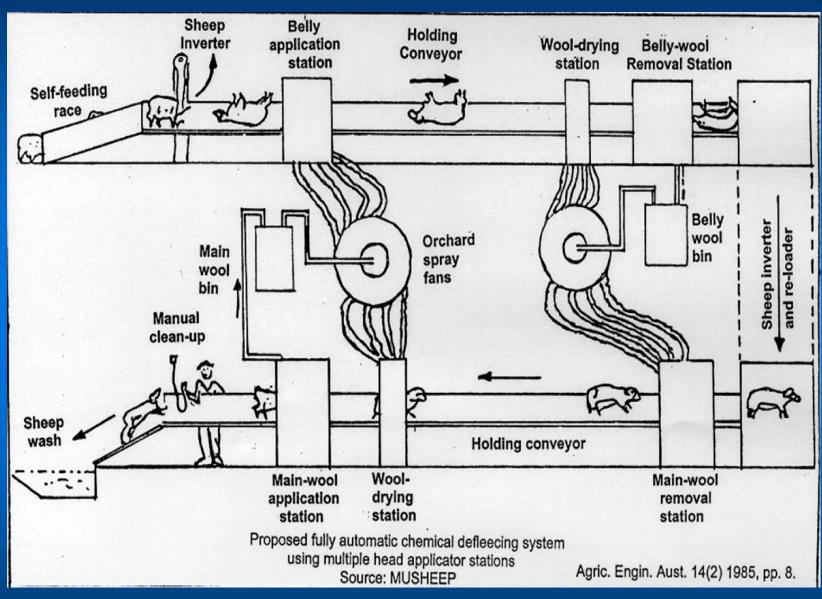
Quality

Wool



Anthony Schlink







Disadvantages of biological wool harvesting

- cost of the drug
- fleece retention
- sun-burn and cold exposure problems
- use of coats
- use of drugs



Wool Harvesting Drugs

Drug	Dose Rate	Administration

CPA 20-30mg/kg **Various Mimosine** 80mg/kg IV 1.5-2 days 400-600mg/kg Oral 8.5mg/kg^{0.75} **Dexamethasone** I.S. 8 days 1.3mg/kg^{0.75} I.S. 8 days **Flumethasone** 400mg/kg Oral PAP **EGF** 120-150μg/kg S.C.



Epidermal Growth Factor development

- EGF activity discovered during late 1970's
- Harvesting Options
 - weakened wool versus complete break
- Biological Hazards?
 - biological effects
 - rams
 - oestrous cycle
 - during pregnancy



for

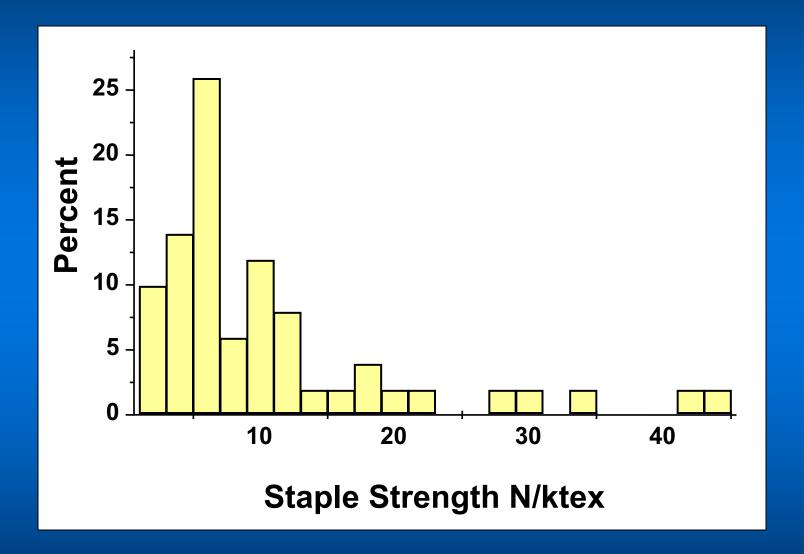
Premium

Quality

Wool

© 1999, Wool CRC

Failure of weakened wool!





for

Premium

Quality

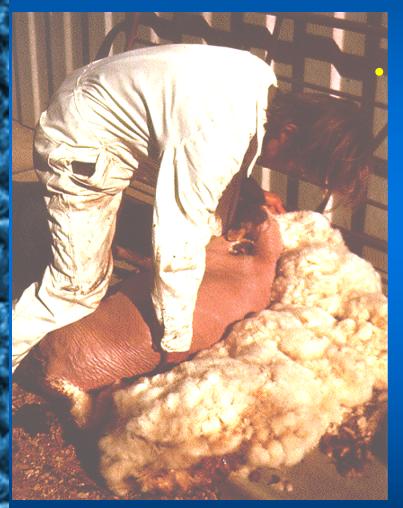
Wool

Wool Collection

- Coats
 - for wool holding
 - for fleece retention

Non-coats

controlled breaks







Summary

- The wool industry is innovative
- Wool harvesting has improved with time
- Currently wool harvesting is entering a phase of discontinuity
- Progress from basic biology to market in this case was 20 years