



189.28 sq. cm. Size:

Thursday, 1 June 2006 Date: Page Number: 15 Edition: First Supplement: Main

Market: Victoria Circulation: 12,304 Published: Editorial: Item No:

WEEKLY email the editor P10661702



Students visit 'sheep camp

A PROJECT to increase school students' understanding of the sheep industry was piloted in Victoria last week.

The Department of Primary Industries education program LandLearn, in partnership with three schools and support from Australian Wool Innovation, took students on "sheep camp".

Students involved in the sheep camp visited a commercial farm at Warrambeen where they found out more about common sheep husbandry practices such as drenching, inoculation, crutching and shearing. The students, aged 12 to 17, pictured

above, enjoyed discussing the benefits and costs of sheep husbandry practices with farm staff and the farm owner, Trish Taylor.

The National Wool Museum at Geelong was a highlight of the visit where students researched various

aspects of the wool industry including key components of the history of wool in Australia, changes in technology over time and the science of wool.

Students also visited the DPI research farm at Werribee where they observed real life, practical examples of agricultural research.

The camp took 20 students from **Elizabeth Murdoch College, Padua College and Woodleigh College.**

These schools are in a rural fringe area where farming and alternative land uses meet.

Only one student from the group lived on a family farm.

LandLearn education officer. Jessica Connor said as a result of the camp the students were better placed to support and understand agriculture as a legitimate use of the environment, and had a much greater awareness of potential careers in agriculture.

