



CRC

for

Premium

Quality

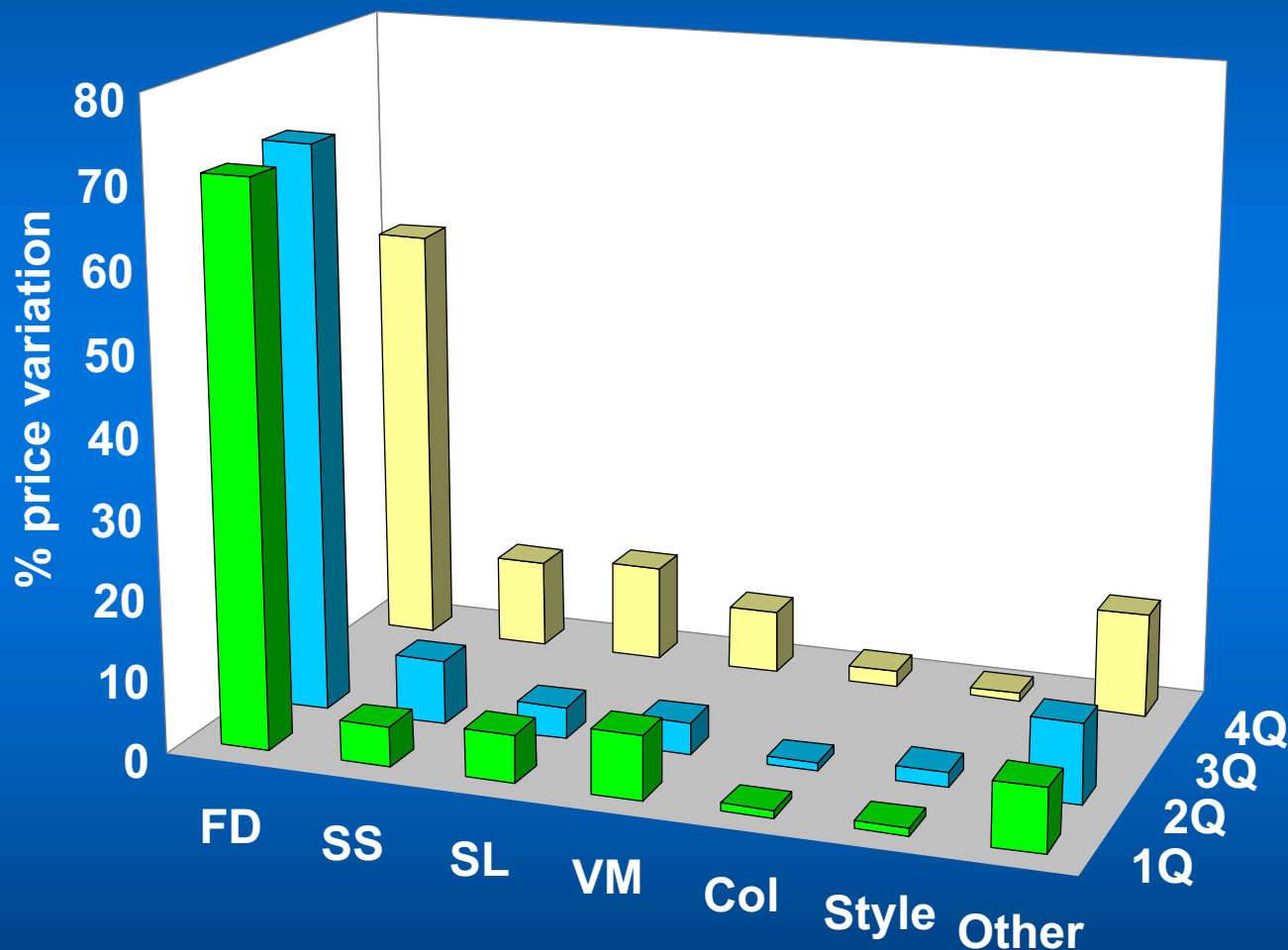
Wool

Production Profile of the Australian Wool-growing Industry

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
Dr. Brad Crook, The University of New England.



Relative importance of wool attributes in determining the clean price of Merino fleece wool (1997-98 selling season: auction)



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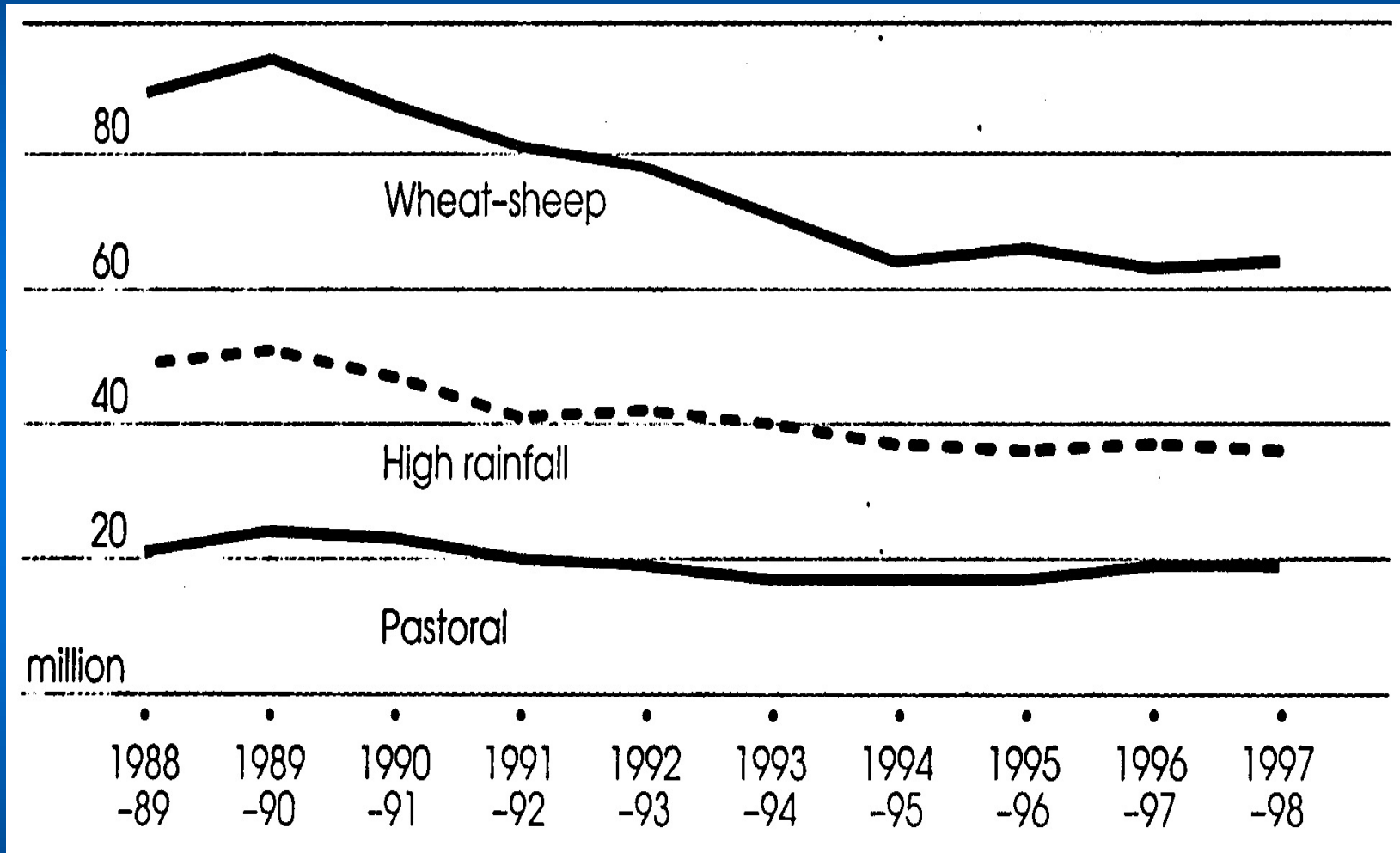
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Source: IWS Pricemaker Quarterly



Australian sheep population: 1988-1997



Brad Crook
Source: Martin, P. (1998)



Relative productivity of Merino strains

	Fine: <i>Saxon</i>	Medium: <i>Peppin and non-Peppin</i>	Broad: <i>SA strongwool</i>
Greasy fleece weight (kg)	3-5	4-6	5-7
Fibre diameter (μm)	≤ 20	21-22	23-26
Mature body weight (kg)	30-50	40-80	50-90



**High rainfall
zone**



**Wheat-sheep
zone**



**Pastoral
zone**

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Australian Greasy Wool Production: 1997/98

	<u>Aust. Prod. (%)</u>	<u>Wool cut per head</u>
• NSW	34 %	4.27 kg
• WA	24 %	4.03 kg
• Vic	18 %	3.98 kg
• SA	13 %	4.68 kg
• Qld	8 %	4.98 kg
• Tas	3 %	3.96 kg

Total Production: 636 mkg

National average: 4.24 kg

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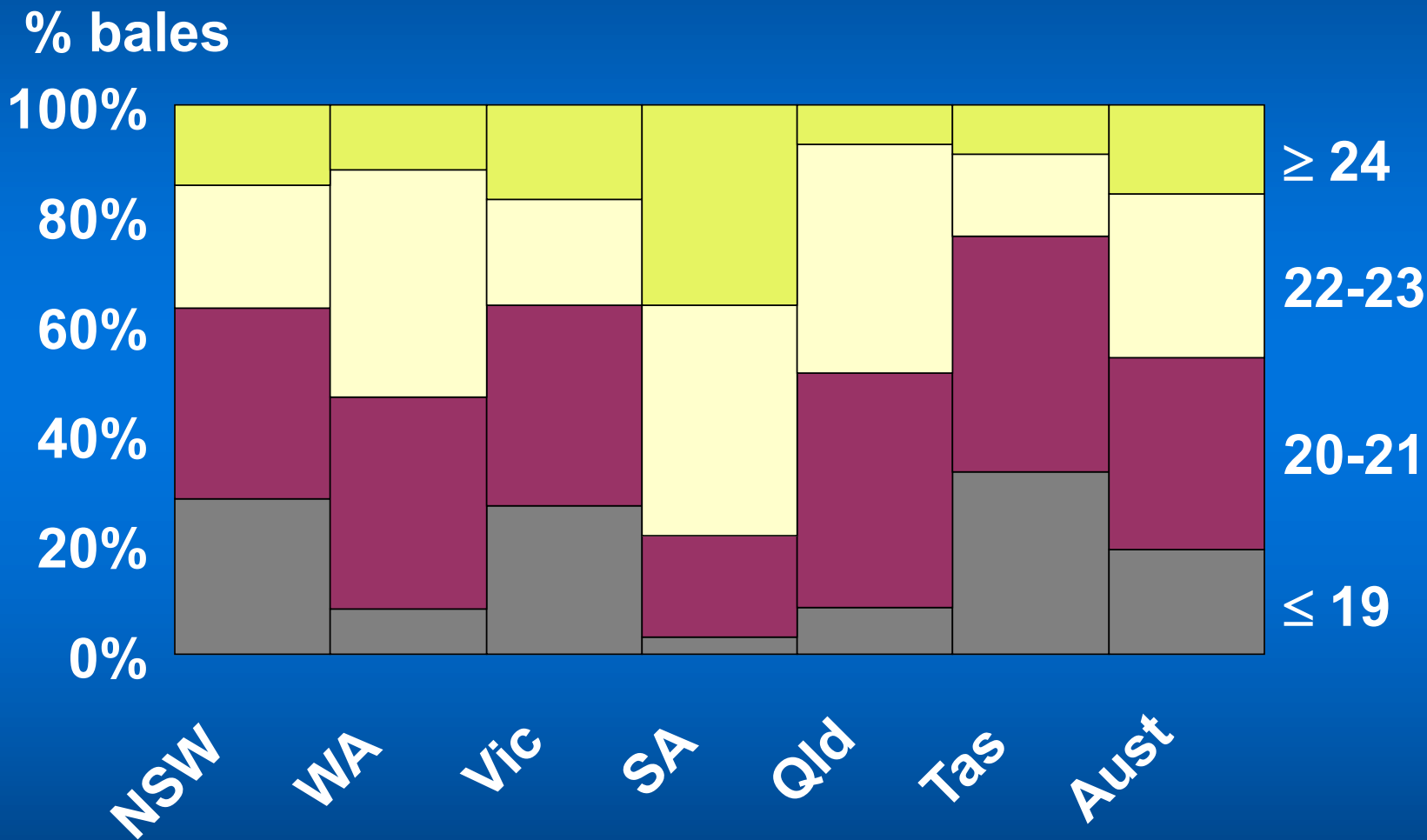
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Fibre diameter profile of greasy wool sold at auction, by state: 1997-98



Brad Crook

Source: Wool International (1998)



1997-98

**% bales
Colour Tender VMB%**

Adelaide 7 24 2.3

Fremantle 13 31 1.6

NSW

Sydney 17 17 3.0

Goulburn 12 18 1.7

Newcastle 17 7 2.8

Vic

Melbourne 10 28 1.6

Geelong 10 33 1.0

Launceston 13 18 0.6

Aust. 13 24 2.1

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Between-region variability in wool production: average specialist wool farm, NSW, 1994-1997

	T'lands	Central West	NW slopes & plains	Riverina	West
Wool cut per head (kg)	4.0	4.2	4.4	5.0	5.2
Wool cut per ha (kg)	10.6	10.0	5.8	5.2	1.3
Stocking rate (dse/ha)	3.6	3.7	2.0	1.6	0.3
Micron – main fleece line	19.9	19.6	19.5	21.9	22.5
Greasy wool price (c/kg)	597	593	468	426	372

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Australian flock profile

	1988 %	1992 %	1997 %
Sheep (1 year & over):			
Breeding ewes	47	44	48
Dry sheep	30	37	27
Lambs and hoggets (under 1 year)	23	19	25
Total (millions)	152.4	148.2	123.3

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