



CRC

for

Premium

Quality

Wool

Non-genetic Handicaps in the Components of Clean Fleece Weight

Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
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Non-genetic “handicaps”

	Maiden ewe (dam age)	Multiple-reared (birth/rearing status)	Youngest (5wk Lambing)
Clean fleece weight	-2%	-7%	-11%
Live weight	-2%	-4%	-7%
Wrinkle score	-9%	-29%	-15%
Average diameter	+0%	+2%	-2%
Follicle density	-1%	-3%	+5%
Staple length	-0%	-2%	-4%

vs adult *vs single-reared* *vs oldest*

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Between-year variation

20 years of production records from a randomly-selected control line of medium Peppin Merino ewes (Central NSW). Records are adjusted for age of dam, b/rearing status & age at measurement.

	<u>Highest</u>	<u>Lowest</u>	<u>%diff #</u>
Clean fleece weight (kg)	3.8	1.5	153
Live weight (kg)	42.2	27.4	54
Wrinkle score	4.4	2.0	120
Average diameter (μm)	23.7	20.1	18
Follicle density (no./mm ²)	60.9	43.6	40
Staple length (cm)	10.7	6.9	55

difference as a % of lowest value

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