CRC for Premium Quality Wool

Susceptibility to Fleece Rot

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

Potential factors influencing susceptibility to fleece rot

- Higher average diameter and diameter variation
- Thicker staples
- Lower crimp frequency
- Lower wax:suint ratio
- Malformation of the withers:
  - high shoulder blades
  - broad withers
  - “pinch” behind the withers

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Merino strain differences in fleece rot incidence (central NSW)

Strain	Incidence (%) Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Fine	6.0	3.1	6.7
Medium	39.9	23.7	6.9
Strong	67.2	33.7	14.3
Mean	37.2	21.5	7.3

Brad Crook
Source: Atkins et al. (1980)

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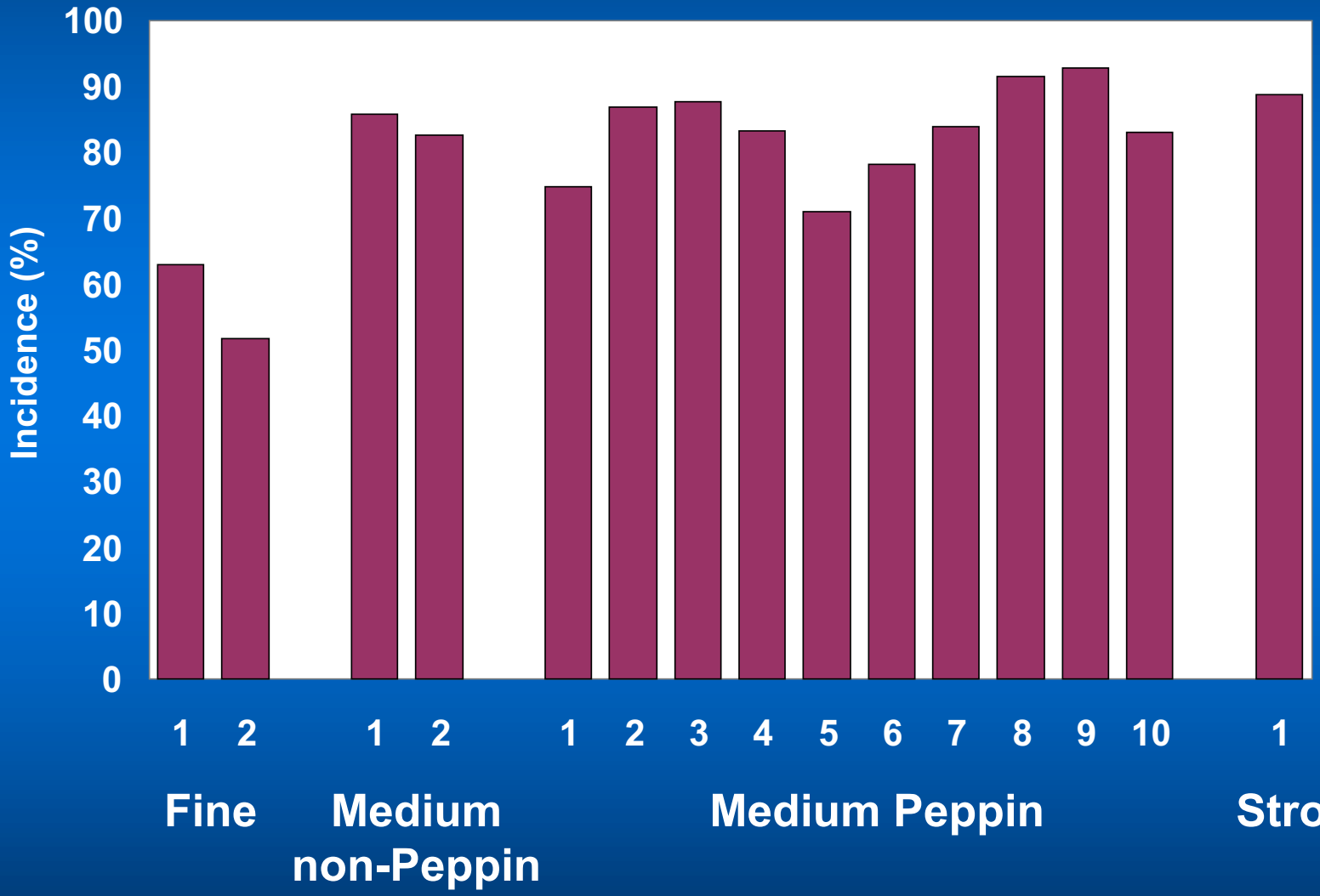
Bloodline variation in fleece rot incidence



Brad Crook
Source: Raadsma et al. (1989)

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