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LAMBPLAN: Meeting Market Specifications

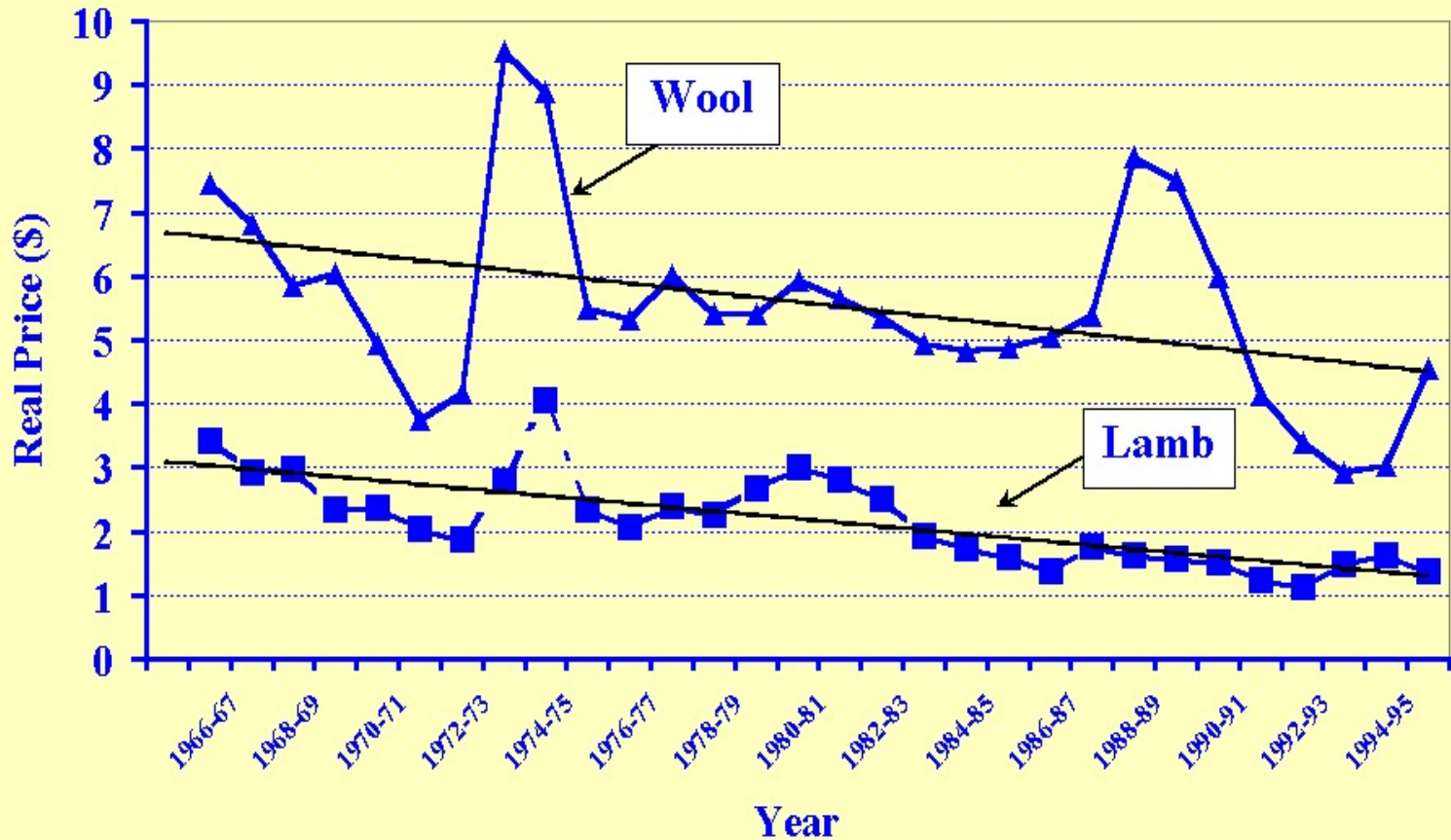
Produced for the CRC for Premium Quality Wool undergraduate program by;
Dr. Robert Banks and Dr Alex Ball, MLA LAMBPLAN.



The Sheep Industry Challenge

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Real Prices for Wool and Lamb





What are the specs in sheepmeat? I: Domestic Lamb

- Standard domestic carcase is 18-22 kg, and rising
- Domestic markets want fat score 2-3, with 7-12 mm often preferred
- Domestic markets prefer E, U or R muscling
- 2nd-cross preferred

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What are the specs in sheepmeat? II: Export Lamb

- Carcase weight 20 kg and above, and rising
- Fat score 2-3 preferred, some flexibility
- Prefer E, U or R muscling, but more flexible

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What are the specs in sheepmeat?

III: Mutton (old, young)

- Greater than 24 kg (usually)
- no spec on fat, muscle, ...
- Colour?
- Age?
- Price ~ as cheap as possible
- Mutton is not at present a food product!

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How to reduce cost-of-production?

- Sires need to be genetically high growth rate, lean and well-muscled
- Dams must be genetically high weaning rate and good milking
- Dams should cut plenty of wool (reduces cost of production of meat!)

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How to source the seedstock:

- Sheepmeat production is simply adding feed to genes then managing!
- LAMBPLAN provides EBVs and Index Values for terminal sire, crossing, dual-purpose and Merino animals
- EBVs are your best guide to the value of an animal's genes

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Example EBVs and Index Values:

ID	Ywt (kg)	Yfat (mm)	Yemd (mm)	Index
980001	+ 3.0	- 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 31
980002	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 7
980003	- 2.5	+ 1.0	- 0.5	0

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How are EBVs Produced?

- Breeders supply ID, pedigree, date of birth, birth type, management group
- Scanners measure backfat and eye muscle depth
- Pedigree and performance data is processed to produce EBVs and Indexes
- **All LAMBPLAN is ACROSS-FLOCK**

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Indexes for Different Breed Roles

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Animal Type	Emphasis in \$Index on			
	Growth	Carcase	Reprod/ Maternal	Wool traits
Terminal sires	***	***	*	-
Dual-purpose (meat)	**	**	***	*
Dual-purpose (wool)	*	*	**	***



Sire Specs for Different Markets:

Market Target	Weight (PWWT)	Fat (YFAT)	Muscle (YEMD)	Index (60:20:20)	Index (80:10:10)	
CRC for Premium Quality Wool	Trade (R and O)	+3	<0	>0	117.52	120.04
	Trade (E and U)	+3	<0	+2	144.78	138.88
	Heavy (R and O)	+2	<0	>0	111.68	113.36
	Heavy (E and U)	+2	<0	+2	138.94	132.2
	Export (R and O)	+2	-2	>0	123.56	119.7
	Export (E and U)	+2	-2	+2	150.82	138.54



What are the Challenges for Sheepmeat Breeders and Producers?

- **Better breeding!**
- **Better feeding and management!**
- **Better marketing strategies!**

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