

Ram Management Checklist

WHAT: **Vaccination**—6 in 1 plus B12

WHY: Protection against diseases including tetanus, blackleg, pulpy kidney, malignant oedema, black disease and cheesy gland.

WHEN: Barwon vaccinates rams at marking, weaning and shearing. Rams should be vaccinated annually prior to joining.

WHAT: **Guidair** vaccination

WHY: Protection against ovine Johne's disease.

WHEN: Barwon vaccinates rams at marking.

WHAT: **Drench**—rotate product. Barwon 2010 drop rams have been drenched with Hat-trick™ at shearing in early December and with Zolvix® four weeks prior to the auction.

WHY: Maintain gastro-intestinal health to optimise ram health and performance.

WHEN: Annually

WHAT: **Vitamins** A, D and E

WHY: Maintain all-round ram health, especially during wet winter.

WHEN: Barwon 2010 drop rams were given A, E and D at weaning. Can be given as needed.

WHAT: **High protein diet.** Barwon 2010 drop rams have been grazing lucerne with ad lib barley and wheaten hay to balance the diet and reduce risk of red gut. Lupins are a good alternative to lucerne

WHY: Ensure rams are healthy and fit, and remain so throughout joining. Also improves sperm production. Extremely important in young rams.

WHEN: Barwon 2010 drop rams are 10 months old. They have been on this high protein diet since weaning. Rams should be on a high protein diet four to six weeks prior to joining and again after joining to return them to their maintenance body weight.

WHAT: **Assess your rams.** Check testicles for hardness or lumps and tubes for lumps. Check feet for abscess and treat. Trim toes. Check teeth. Cull rams that cannot effectively serve ewes for the season.

WHY: Healthy, mobile rams with good teeth and healthy testicles can maintain their bodyweight through the joining season and serve more ewes, resulting in more lambs.

WHEN: Each year prior to joining

WHAT: **Use sufficient rams.**

WHY: Have spare, fresh rams to cover for sick or injured rams. Use more rams to tighten joining and lambing period.

WHEN: Optimum for 1000 ewes, start joining with 15 rams and 10 spare. Add the 10 spare to the mob of ewes two to three weeks after the start of joining.



Look after your rams, they're worth it!

Dorsets that look like Dorsets! Whites that look like Whites!