

# Life Time Ewe Management Ararat 2008

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**“Quamby” Ararat Victoria**



# QUAMBY DOBIE

- 12 km's SE of Ararat in West. Vic
- Basalt soils – 45% arable
- 575 mm annual rainfall
- 9,000 - 12,500 dse's
- 75% Pasture - 25% crop  
*(Area cropped ranges from 15-30%)*

# QUAMBY

# DOBIE

*A dual purpose merino flock*

- *150 bales 18-19 micron wool*
- *100% lambing (long term 125%)*
- *2400 merino lambs*
- *2000 prime lambs*
- *25% property to crop*

# Stock Numbers 2009

Merino to Merino	2200
Merino to Prime Lambs	1800
Weaners	2100
Rams	60
Total	6160
Average Stocking rate	12.0 dse/ha

# Target 2009

	Ewes	Lambs
Merino to Merino	2200	2400
Merino to Prime Lambs	1800	2000
Total	4000	4400

# Lessons from 2007-08

- NO July lambing
- Lamb mid Aug-Sept
- Scan all ewes – feed mgt, Dystoccia manage singles
- Use fodder crops to provide extra winter feed

# 2009 Strategies

- Wean at 13 weeks
- Lamb a month later – more feed
- Ewes C.S. mating (a challenge in dry conditions)
- Draft to Condition score if required
- Scan all ewes – feed mgt, Dystoccia manage singles
- Graze winter crops
- Fodder crops for late spring feed

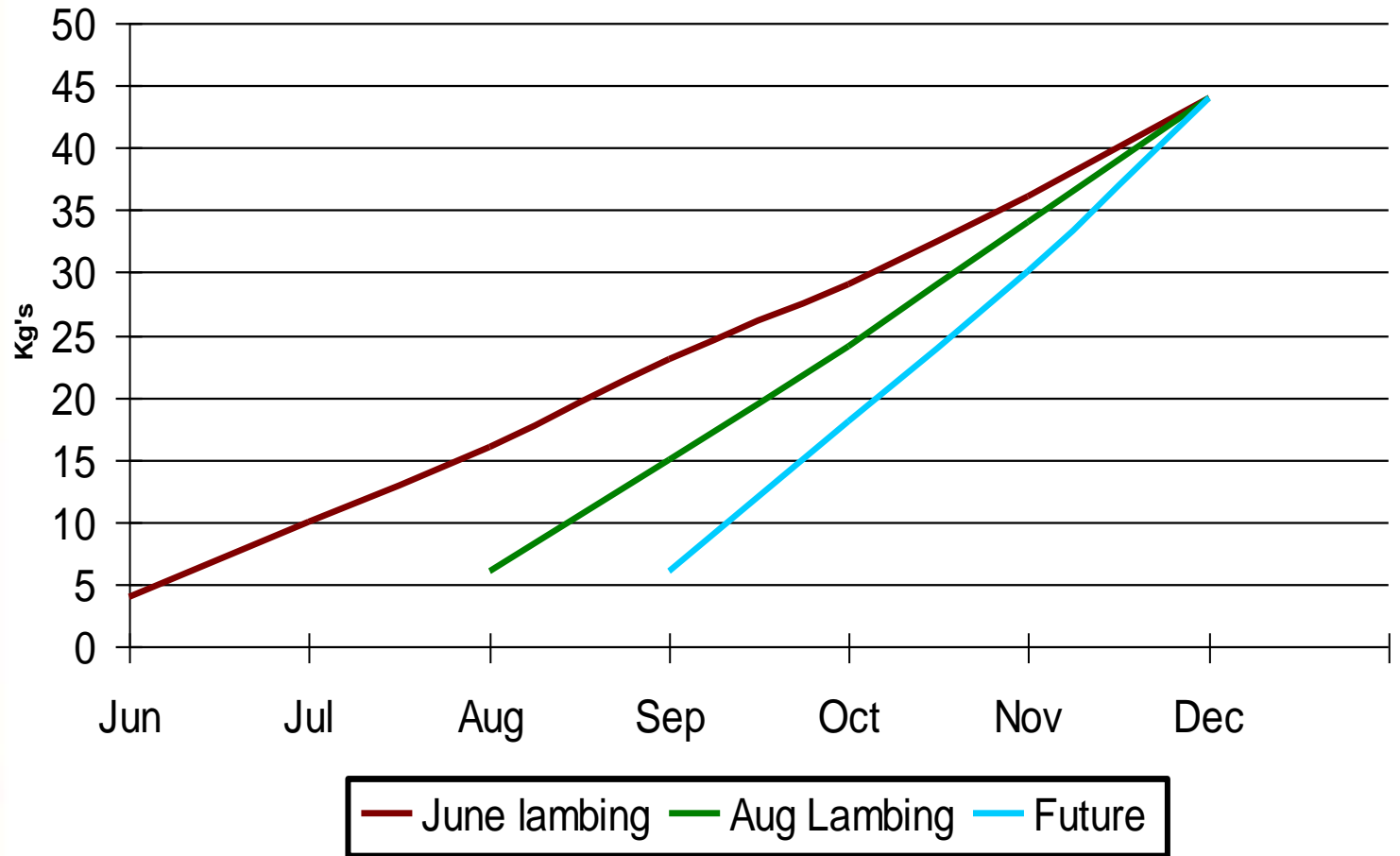
Match sheep demand to pasture availability

Quality pasture - >30% sub clover





# Impact of Time of Lambing “Lamb Growth Rates”



# REVIEW OUR SYSTEM

## Breeder, Finisher or Both

### July vs. Sep Lambing

Lamb Date	Stocking rate Ewes/ha	Income \$/ha	Agents commission \$/ha
July	6	\$605 <i>\$80/lamb</i>	\$23.3
Sept	8.5	\$900 <i>\$45/lamb</i>	\$29.7

# Factors to determine T.O.L.

- Environment
- Feed availability
- Lamb survival
- Manage internal parasites
- Consider weaning/finishing pastures
- Input costs (*feed ewe or lamb*)
- C.O.P
- Mating – keeping ewes in C.S. 3+

# Quamby Key Factors

Weaning 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Split according to C.S. if necessary Cull daggy ewes
Mating 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Use rams with 0 WEC
Scanning 5 <sup>th</sup> June	0,1,(2+3) ?sell 0's
Lambing 15 <sup>th</sup> August	? dry's out

# Year1 Trikkala Sub Clover

*“Pumping In N”*



# Banquet Rye Grass Aug 29th

Sown April 2006



# 2<sup>nd</sup> X Lambs @ 110 days

45 kg @47% yield =21.15 CWT



# Merino Lambs @90 days

Average live weight 26kg





# Merino wethers 8 months



# Merino wethers 19 months

