

Wow! 2009 proved to be packed with the unexpected. The lamb market is going from strength to strength and we hope you are all being rewarded for the years hard work. We were very excited with the success of our first ram sale - thank you to those successful purchasers and underbidders and hope you have great success with the rams. Many buyers who bought six rams or more were rewarded by receiving every sixth ram free, which was good to see. As you are well aware an event like that doesn't just happen and we would like to thank our staff, Luke and Zoë for their infectious enthusiasm, which is refreshing when there is so much to do. A big thank you to John and Jacinta Hedley from Darriwill Farm, who cooked and prepared the Icon lamb into delicious foccacia and ciabatta rolls that were enjoyed by all. Thank you to the rest of the Tonissen clan for all the "little" things that had to be done to make the day. Thanks must also go to Sandy MacKirdy for his help in cataloguing the rams and to Rob Claffey and the Kerr & Co/Rodwell staff for their help on the day.

The ram sale results can be seen on our website.

PURCHASE OF CLIFTON HILL COOPWORTH STUD

We have finished 2009 with a big bang as we are extremely fortunate and excited to have purchased the prominent Clifton Hill Coopworth stud, formerly owned by John and Sue Marriott. We have purchased all the top end ewes along with the entire '09 ram drop which will be available for purchase in the Spring of 2010. We have always had a high regard for the "Clifton Hill" sheep and consider them to be the best pure Coopworth flock in Australia. They are true to type Coopworths with outstanding performance data. We believe that this flock will add significantly to the quality of sheep we already breed at Chrome and it further demonstrates our commitment to supplying our clients with the best possible genetics available of a constant type.

CHROME SURPLUS ELITE EWE SALE

We are offering this year the following Chrome ewes at the Landmark Casterton Store sale held on 30th December 2009.

- 130** 09 drop Maternal Composite ewe lambs. Tops of the drop and represent the lead run of all the commercial bred ewe lambs on the place. The mothers of these lambs averaged 148% lambs marked to ewes joined this year. Trained to eat grain
- 100** 08 Drop Maternal Composite ewes Jul/Aug drop. These ewes were all born as twins.
- 120** 04 Drop Maternal Composite ewes. These ewes have had the dry ewes taken out every year and consistently mark over 140% lambs.

All ewes are 4 ABC points and are OJD and 6 in 1 vaccinated. All Dec 09 shorn. The above ewes are sired by the lead run of the Chrome ram lambs each year. To view photos and details please visit our website.

ICON POLL DORSET RAMS AVAILABLE

For those who are still looking for one or two rams we have approx. 30 Icon Poll Dorset rams. They are well fleshed long rams with deep thick bodied and nice clean heads. June/July 08 drop by leading Australian and NZ sires. Carcass Plus indexes to 196%. Priced from \$500 (discounts and delivery available for bulk orders) Photos can be seen on our website.

Thankyou for your support during the year.

We wish you a safe, happy and relaxed Christmas, surrounded by family and friends!

Regards, Matthew & Tanya Tonissen