



CLOVEN HILLS

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JULY NEWSLETTER 2026



More lambs sold. Faster turnoff. Moderate ewes. Less labour.

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The Cloven Hills 2026 ram sale team addresses the practical challenges facing self-replacing prime-lamb flocks: more lambs weaned, earlier turnoff, moderate ewe size, sound feet, better carcase value and simpler ram selection.

Prime lamb producers are trying to turn the same hectares, feed and labour into more saleable lamb. This edition starts with the commercial problem on-farm, then shows how Cloven Hills measurement and selection are designed to help solve it.

SPRING ON-FARM RAM SALE TUES 29 SEPT 2026

DRAFT — figures subject to final selection



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THE 2026 TEAM: Built for commercial outcomes

The current 500-head spring-sale draft has been built around the outcomes clients are consistently aiming to achieve:

- ✓ More lambs weaned
- ✓ Faster turnoff
- ✓ Moderate replacement ewes; and
- ✓ fewer structural or genetic passengers.

Its key strength is depth—the averages are not being carried by a few exceptional rams.



2026 SALE TEAM – AT A GLANCE

Key sale-team facts



185

average Maternal
MCP+

comfortably
top 10%



73%

of the draft

ranks top 10%
and above for
Maternal MCP+



89%

of the draft

ranks top 10%
for Combined
MCP+



215

rams

are simultaneously
top 20% for maternal
MCP+, PWT, WWT
and PEMD.



Where the team sits on the traits that drive client outcomes

	MCP+	BWT	WWT	PWWT	AWT	PEMD	PFAT	WR	YWR	PSC	PWEC
ALL RAMS	185	0.6	11	16.8	13.9	2.5	-0.19	0.27	0.54	5.8	-34
MICRON RAMS	181	0.6	10.8	16.6	14.2	2.3	-0.19	0.27	0.51	5.8	-31

Percentile bands – Maternal Analysis, Sale Rams

Top 10%

Top 20%

Top 30%

Top 40%

Top 60%



Depth, balance and consistency across the sale team.

Strong Maternal and Combined MCP+ depth,
backed by growth, muscle and key
reproductive traits.



WHAT WE ARE AIMING FOR: BALANCED, OPTIMISED TRAITS

More lambs sold. Faster turnoff. Moderate ewes. Less labour.

Specialist options within the team

Within the broader balanced team, clients can identify rams for more targeted objectives:

- About 100 wool-focused rams, averaging 26.8 micron and 181 Maternal MCP+.
- 184 rams, or 30%, are identified in the top 30% for shear-force eating quality.
- 49 rams are identified in the top 30% for IMF.
- 115 rams are identified in the top 30% for Combined PWWT, including 18 also in the top 30% for Combined PEMD.

The whole-team message is balance; the specialist groups allow clients to target specific markets without losing sight of the complete production system or sacrificing core commercial traits.

A HIGH FLOOR, NOT JUST A HIGH TOP

The client challenge is avoiding a ram team with a few stars and too many passengers. At Cloven Hills, the value is not only in the highest-indexing rams, but in the standard at which the catalogue begins.

Every catalogue ram has already passed through a five-star Sheep Genetics data-quality system, extensive trait measurement, repeated physical assessment and heavy culling pressure. The rating does not make every animal elite; it increases confidence that the ASBVs describe real genetic differences.

How the sale team is built

1. All ram lambs produced — the full drop begins the selection process.
2. Extensive performance recording — fertility, survival, growth, adult weight, carcase, worm resistance, feet and structure.
3. Repeated physical assessment — feet, legs, pasterns, movement, constitution and commercial suitability are assessed multiple times by stud principals Kate and Chris. Ewes are scored annually by Kate and Connor, but we always have raddle in our hand when sheep are in the yards to identify anything not quite right on the draft → out!
4. A minimum of 50% culled — rams are removed for physical faults or for failing non-negotiable ASBV thresholds, particularly fertility and growth.
5. Only the qualified team is catalogued — rams must meet both the genetic and physical standard before being offered.

What this means for clients

- Greater confidence: ASBVs are backed by extensive, high-quality recording.
- Fewer passengers: at least half of the ram lambs produced do not progress to the sale catalogue.
- More consistent ram teams: a high catalogue floor reduces the gap between the leading rams and the lower-priced options.
- Strong value throughout: clients can select for their own priorities and budget without moving outside Cloven Hills minimum standards.

The catalogue floor: approximately 175 MCP+

If the final catalogue floor remains around 175 MCP+, even the lowest-indexing ram offered has already passed substantial genetic and physical selection pressure. The lower end of the catalogue is not unselected stock; it is the lower end of an already highly selected team.



The practical breeding objective

Produce more kilograms of saleable lamb from fertile, moderate and commercially resilient ewes. The team combines top-end lamb growth and muscle without pushing mature ewe size to the extreme.

EVIDENCE OF DEPTH ACROSS THE NATIONAL MATERNAL POPULATION

What this proves

Cloven Hills is contributing genetic depth across the national maternal population—not relying on one or two headline sires. A broad, connected sire base increases the chance of building a consistent ram team while still selecting for different farm priorities.

CLOVEN HILLS SIRES IN AUSTRALIA'S TOP 150 MCP+ LISTS

July 2026 Australian Maternal and Combined analyses



Maternal analysis



57

Cloven Hills-bred sires in the Top 150



38%

of the Top 150



Largest contributor to the Top 150



18 sires in the Top 50



41 sires in the Top 100



4 sires in the Top 10



Average MCP+: 191.4

Combined analysis



35

Cloven Hills-bred sires in the Top 150



23%

of the Top 150



Second-largest contributor to the Top 150



14 sires in the Top 50



26 sires in the Top 100



2 sires in the Top 10



Average MCP+: 177.9



More than 1 in 3 of Australia's Top 150 Maternal sires is Cloven Hills-bred.

Across both analyses



63

different Cloven Hills sires appear in at least one Top 150 list



29

sires rank in the Top 150 in both analyses



CH302333

ranked No. 3 Maternal and No. 7 Combined



Depth at the top – strong representation across both national MCP+ analyses.

HOW TO USE THE MATERNAL AND COMBINED ANALYSES

What this proves

The client challenge is that more information can make ram selection harder, not easier. This year, Sheep Genetics has released research breeding values from a Combined Maternal and Terminal analysis.

Maternal analysis	Combined analysis
Compares the ram with other maternal sheep. Best for daughter fertility, maternal performance, milk, adult ewe size and MCP+. Use it when the priority is a productive self-replacing ewe flock.	Brings Maternal and Terminal data into one larger research analysis. Useful for broader comparison of growth, muscle, yield and eating quality. Use it to add confidence around lamb and carcase performance.

For 2026, the standard Maternal breeding values will continue to be used in catalogues and on AuctionsPlus. A separate spreadsheet will also be available so clients can view the Combined figures for individual animals.

Why can the figures differ?

The same animal is being compared with a different population and statistical model. A changed number does not mean the ram’s genetics have changed.

The rule when comparing rams

Compare Maternal figures with the Maternal percentile bands and Combined figures with the Combined percentile bands.

Client takeaway

- Replacement females: start with Maternal.
- Lamb and carcase performance: add Combined.
- Final choice: use both with phenotype, structure and your flock’s needs.

Use Maternal to understand replacement-ewe value. Add Combined to assess lamb, carcase and eating-quality performance across the broader prime-lamb population. Always compare each figure with its own percentile bands.

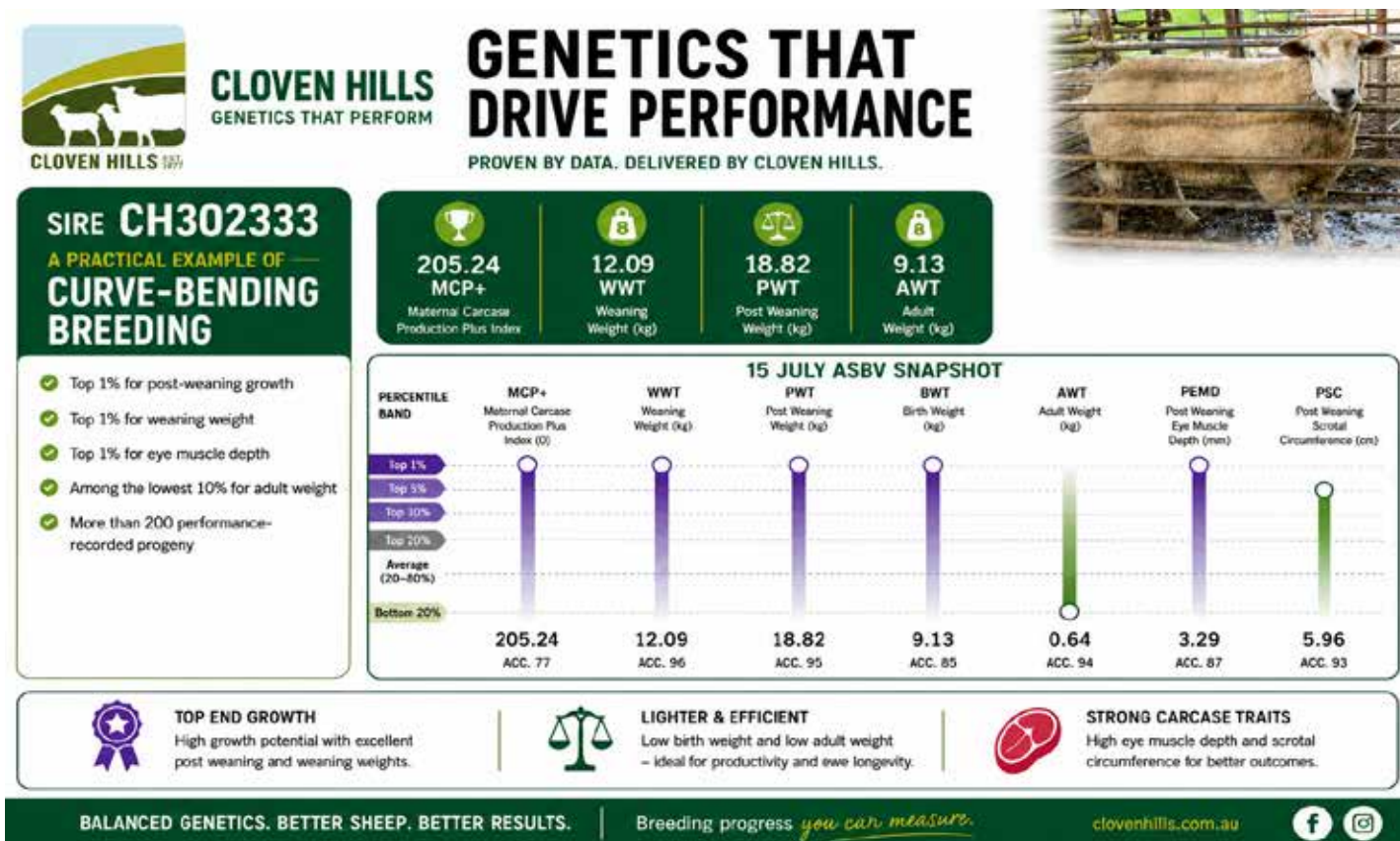
FAST-GROWING LAMBS WITHOUT BIGGER EWES

Feature sire: CH302333

Explaining how 30233 is a practical example of curve-bending breeding

CH302333 was produced through the 2023 embryo-transfer program and has been used across three drops. Fourteen sons and many daughters have been retained. He demonstrates the outcome clients are seeking: faster, better-muscled lambs without automatically creating a larger and more expensive replacement ewe.

His large performance-recorded progeny group adds confidence that this is repeatable genetic performance rather than an individual animal that simply looked exceptional.



The client challenge

Selecting only for the fastest-growing lambs can gradually produce heavier mature ewes because early growth and adult weight are positively related.

Our response

Select strongly for WWT and PWT while measuring and controlling AWT, birth weight and structure. The aim is earlier turnoff without paying for unnecessary mature maintenance.

The feed and stocking-rate consequence

Using standard maintenance requirements, an 85 kg dry ewe requires about 26% more metabolisable energy per day than a 65 kg ewe. On a fixed feedbase, that difference appears as fewer ewes carried, more supplementary feed, or both.

What this means for clients

Curve-bending genetics provide more flexibility: sale lambs can grow quickly while replacement-ewe size remains commercially sensible. Ewes at either extreme of mature size are removed from the breeding program. Clients should always check AWT beside WWT, PWT and MCP+, rather than assuming all growth is equally profitable. Kate can help interpret how they're likely to influence your flock and build a ram team around your desired outcome.



Ewe lambs sold SIL on the Herd online in late June.

MORE LAMBS WEANED — THE RIGHT FERTILITY BALANCE

The client challenge is not producing the highest possible scanning percentage. It is converting conception into lambs successfully weaned from every ewe joined.

Why Weaning Rate needs to be unpacked

Weaning Rate (WR) combines conception, litter size and ewe rearing ability. We are targeting a WR of about 0.25–0.35. Above this we see triplets increase, but the figure should be understood rather than simply maximised.

Optimise Weaning Rate—aim for twins annually, not the highest possible scanning rate

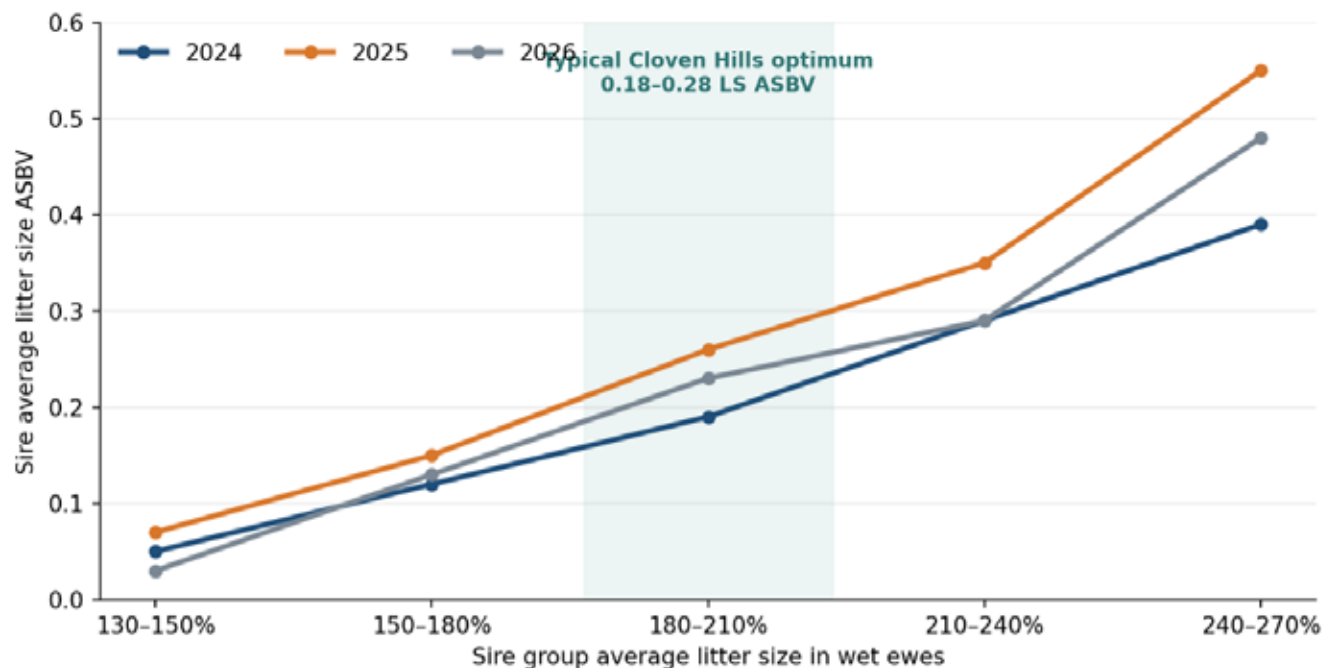
Our goal is for ewes to conceive and rear twins, year after year. This will inevitably produce some triplets, but the aim is to optimise fertility rather than continually maximise litter size.

WR combines conception, litter size and ewe rearing ability. A high WR can be driven by a litter-size level that is already too high for your system. In our current population, Conception and Ewe Rearing Ability ASBVs have limited variation, so most of the difference in Weaning Rate is being driven by Litter Size. Across our 2025 drop, Litter Size and WR were 92% correlated.

What our three years of data show

Under Cloven Hills management, a sire Litter Size ASBV of approximately 0.18–0.28 has produced the most useful balance. Above about 0.35, triplets and quads increase, adding cost, labour and seasonal risk without necessarily producing more lambs weaned.

Triplets are particularly difficult in increasingly variable seasons. They require more late-pregnancy nutrition, closer supervision and much smaller lambing mobs to reduce mismothering and improve survival. Research in maternal ewes indicates an economically optimal triplet mob size of about 19–23 ewes, or approximately 28–30% of the appropriate twin mob size. In the trials, triplet lamb survival averaged about 20% below twin survival, so smaller mobs help narrow the gap but do not necessarily make triplet survival equal to twins.



Three years of Cloven Hills mature litter-size results by sire average litter size.



MORE LAMBS BORN MUST BECOME MORE LAMBS WEANED

Cloven Hills animals are selected on genetic merit while being run together under the same commercially relevant feed and management conditions. This allows us to identify genetics that consistently deliver conception, the right litter size and the ability to rear lambs—not animals whose performance has been created through preferential treatment.

The objective is consistent twins: enough fertility to drive production, but not so much that variable seasons, smaller lambing mobs and extra management erode the benefit.

Cloven Hills stud and commercial flocks consistently wean 85–90% of lambs born. That outcome comes from culling dry ewes, selecting for maternal behaviour and lambing ease, and testing genetic s in commercially relevant paddocks and management systems.

Clients therefore receive more than a fertility number: they gain generations of selection aimed at conception, survival and the ewe's ability to rear the lambs she carries.

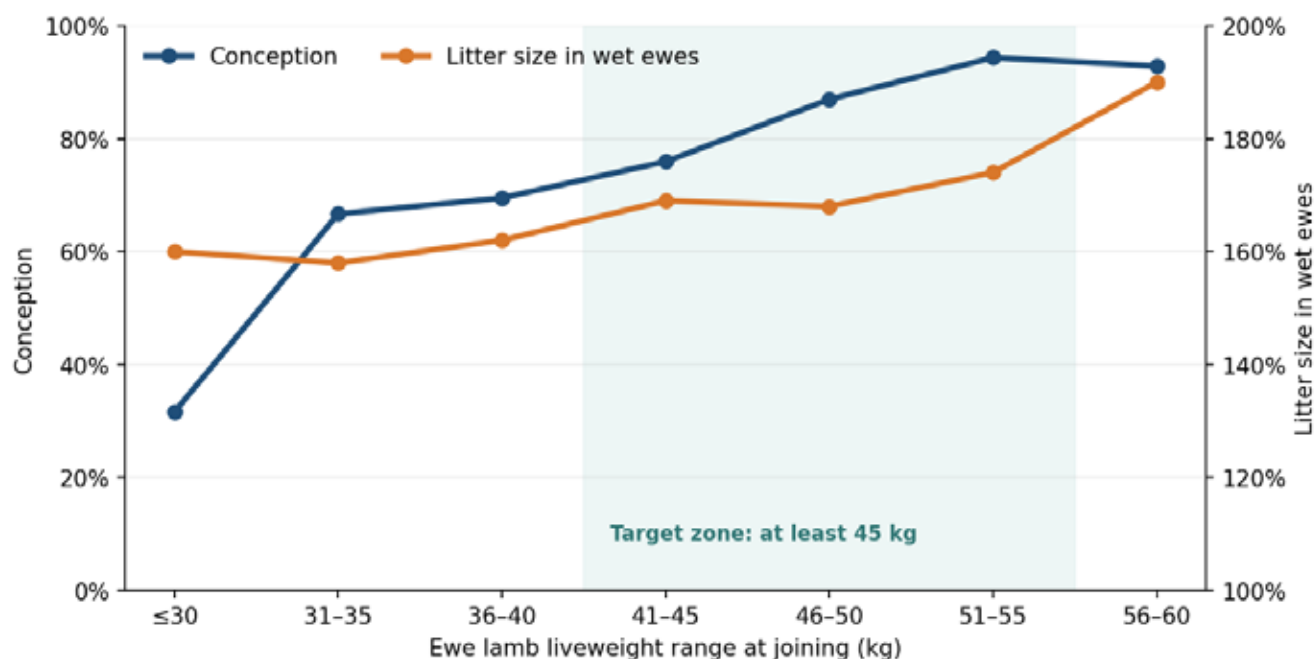
Match fertility to the feedbase, lambing system and litter size already present in the ewe flock.

If wet-ewe scanning is already around 180%, check the Litter Size component before buying a ram with a very high WR or MCP+. The best ram moves the limiting trait on your farm.



EWELAMB JOINING: REACH TARGET WEIGHT, THEN STOP CHASING SIZE

The client challenge is to get ewe lambs heavy enough to express their fertility without feeding them beyond the point where extra size stops paying. Our ewe lambs are joined at seven months for 17 days, and the 2026 analysis shows liveweight is a major driver of reproductive performance.



2026 Cloven Hills ewe-lamb reproduction by joining-weight range
+9 percentage points conception for each additional 5 kg in this dataset.
+5 percentage points litter size in wet ewes for each additional 5 kg.
45 kg minimum joining target in our system.
55–60 kg where the response begins to plateau.

The commercial interpretation

At 45 kg and above, ewe lambs approached mature-ewe conception and litter-size performance in our system. The response began to plateau at 55–60 kg, so extra weight beyond the target may add feed demand and future mature size without a proportional reproductive return.

Genetics and management must work together

Moderate adult-weight genetics help achieve the target without allowing ewe size and DSE demand to climb unchecked. Even the best fertility genetics still require adequate liveweight at joining.

These relationships come from the 2026 Cloven Hills ewe-lamb dataset and should be interpreted within its feed conditions, joining length and management.

WOOL: MAKE IT AN EXTRA MARGIN, NOT A DISTRACTION

The client challenge is to retain wool income without allowing fleece traits to undermine fertility, growth, carcase value or ease of management.

Our micron nucleus is moving from about 30 to 25–26 micron while retaining the maternal performance required in a prime-lamb system.

Using the draft value assumptions, that micron improvement represents about \$13 per ewe each year at a 3.5 kg greasy fleece, or \$65 /ewe over 5 years, before allowing for changes in fleece weight, yield or wool price.

What this can add for clients

- an additional income stream from retained daughters;
- a self-replacing ewe base without depending on outside replacement markets;
- moderate mature weight that protects stocking rate;
- improved fleece value while preserving fertility and lamb production;
- greater whole-farm resilience when lamb and wool prices move differently.

The aim is not to turn a prime-lamb ewe into a wool sheep. It is to capture another margin while retaining the production traits that drive kilograms of lamb per hectare.

For clients, wool is one more lever—not a reason to compromise the complete maternal system.

The catalogue is designed to put clients in the driving seat: start with the problem to solve, use the index, then choose the ASBV mix that fits the farm.

This year's catalogue will offer about 100 wool focused rams averaging 181 on MCP+, -1 YFD & 26.8 micron. See wool team average on page 2.

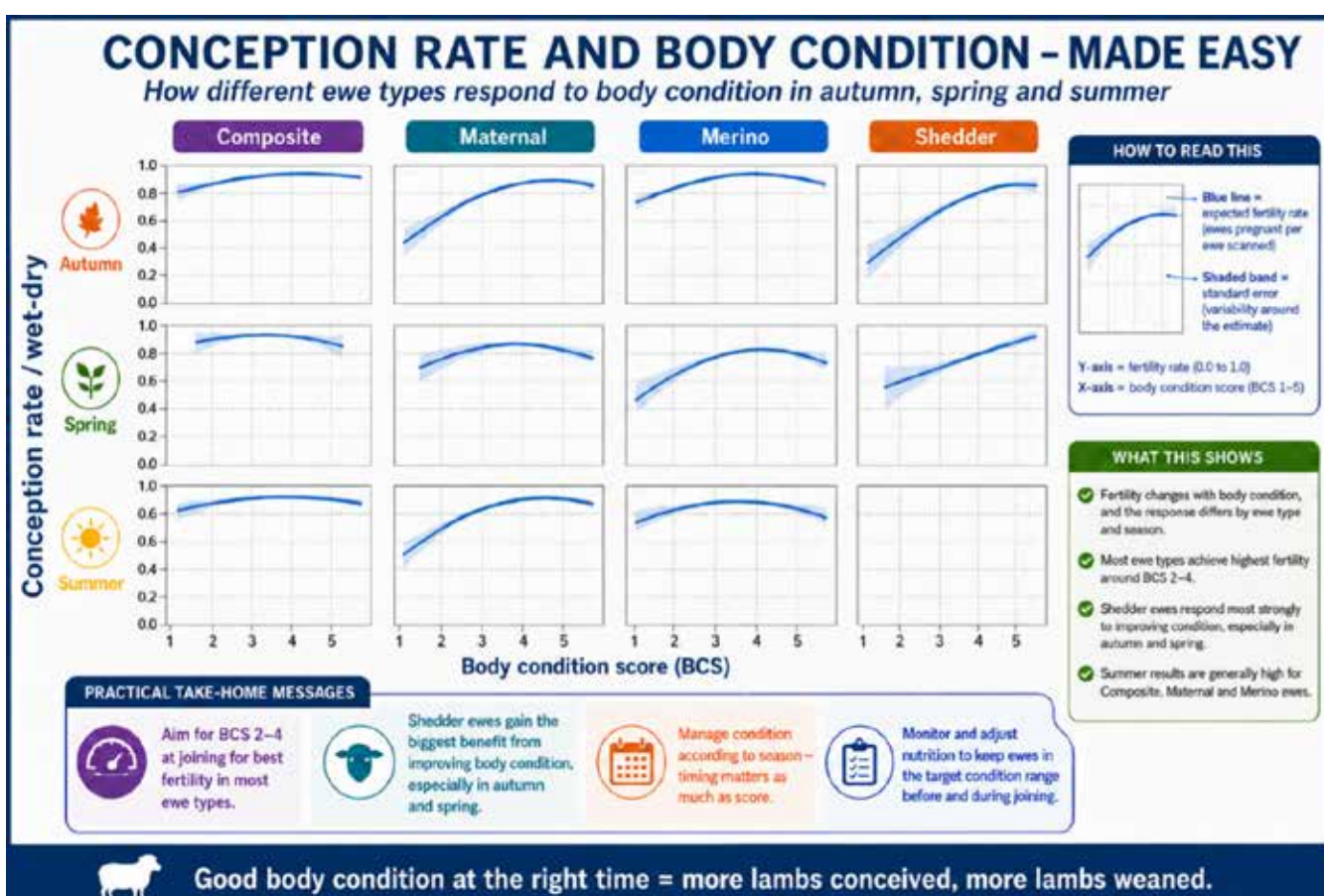


SHEDDING: REDUCE WOOL LABOUR WITHOUT GIVING AWAY PRODUCTION

The client challenge is clear: reduce shearing, crutching and wool-handling labour without losing fertility, lamb growth, carcase value, feet or ease of management.

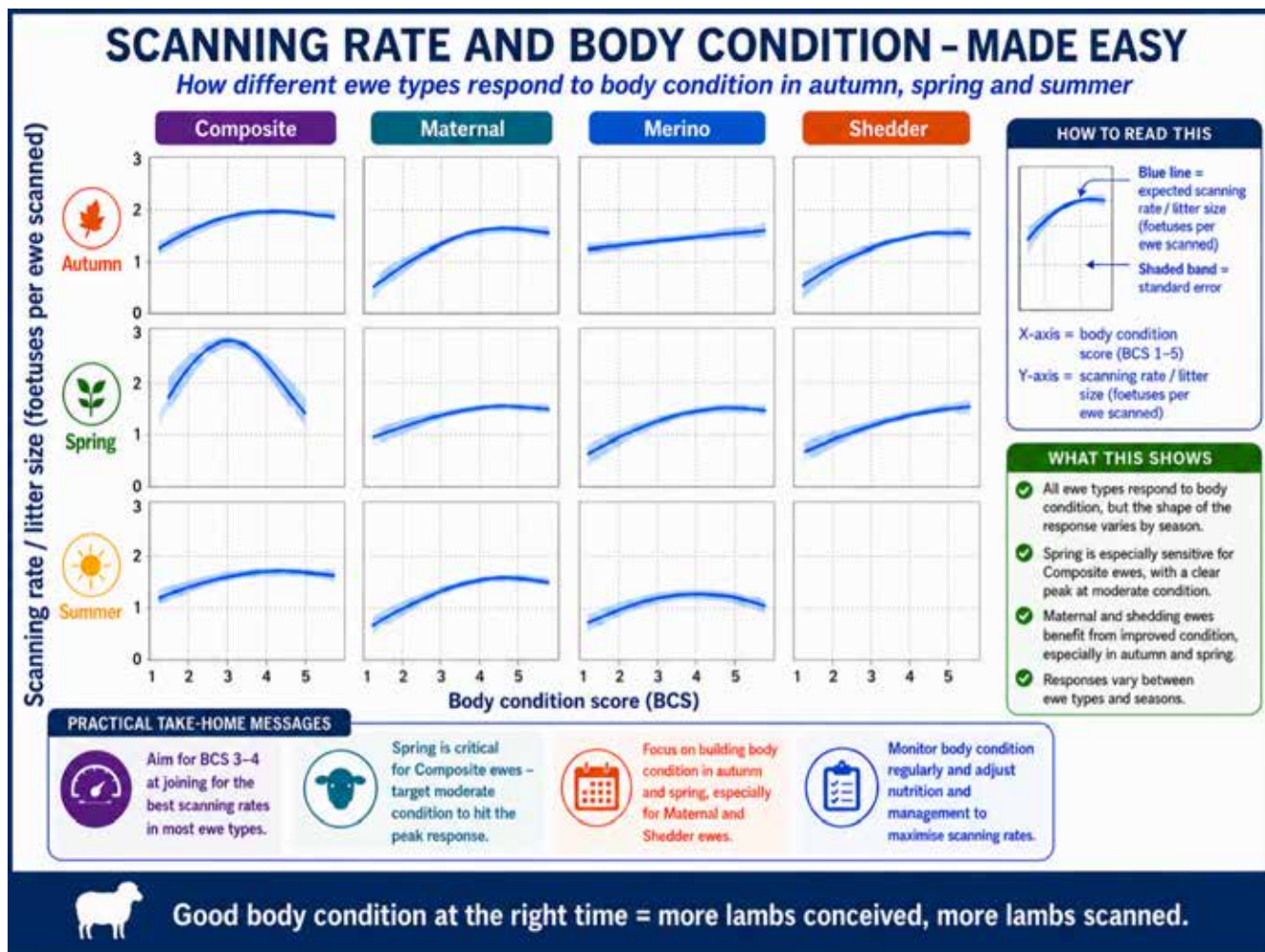
Cloven Hills has tested this question rather than assuming that removing wool automatically improves whole-farm profit. For four years we have run developing shedding maternal composites beside our performance-recorded woolled maternal composites under the same commercial conditions.

Industry research indicates that reproductive performance in shedding ewes can be more sensitive to body condition at joining. That matters because a lower-labour ewe is only commercially useful if she can also conceive, rear lambs and recover between joinings without requiring extra feed.



Reference Refshauge et al. 2023

Research comparison of pregnancy rate by body condition score and breed type.



Reference Refshauge et al. 2023

Research comparison of scanning rate by body condition score and breed type.

Our early-generation F1 and F2 shedding lines have also shown a substantial reproductive gap when compared side by side with the woolled maternal composite line. These are development results—not a claim that all shedding sheep perform the same—but they show why productivity must remain a non-negotiable part of the breeding objective. Notably, 2024 & 2025 were tough drought years. For the graphs on page 15, ewe lambs were 28-72kg, averaging 42.5kg for both 2024 & 2025 including all shedding and woolled. They were not on feeders but were trail fed as per all other ewes joined, but at a higher rate for growing ewe lambs.

Of note, in 2026, our mature shedder ewes 2023/24 joined up at 200%. Sounds marvelous, but they were condition score 4+. Their condition score was a result of them being fed an additional 25% ration. Note this was an error in the feed sheet not planned! Nonetheless our on farm results certainly support the research presented in graphs below.

Ewe lamb performance

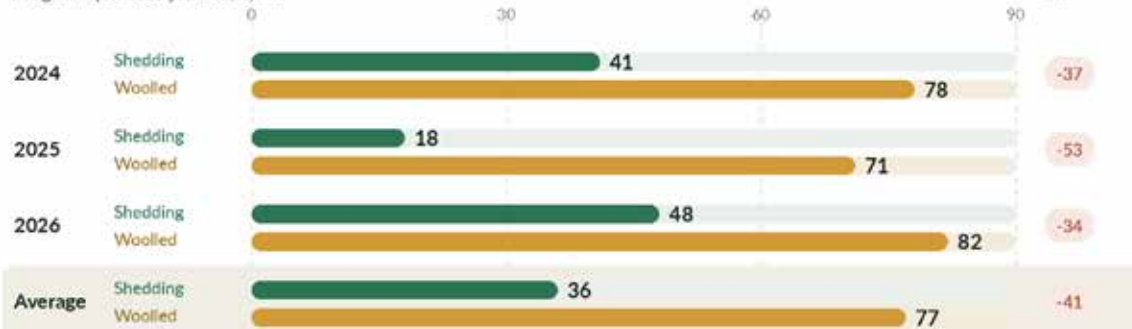
Shedding versus woolled ewe lambs • 2024-2026

Shedding Woolled Difference = Shedding - Woolled

Cloven Hills side-by-side ewe-lamb results

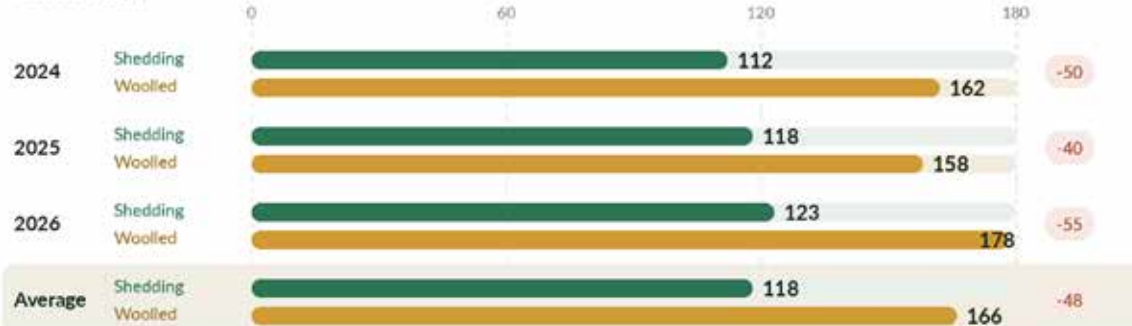
Ewe lamb conception

Pregnant per 100 joined (%)



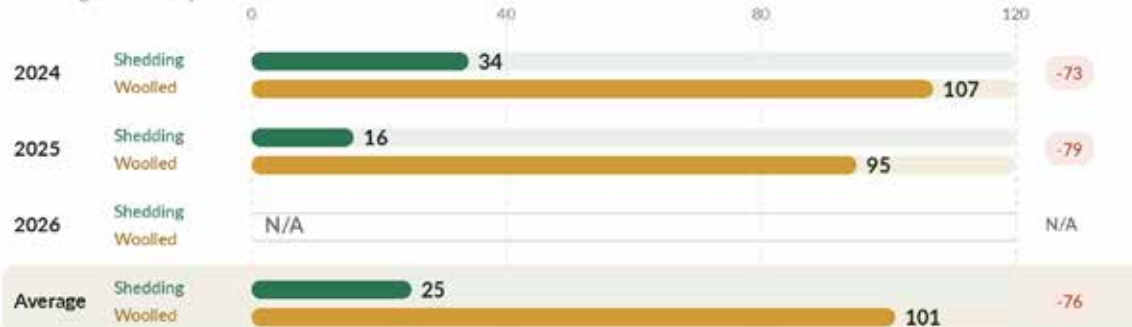
Ewe lamb litter size

In wet ewes (%)



Ewe lamb weaning rate

Weaning % to ewes joined



Note: 2026 weaning results were not available. Its average is based on 2024-2025 data.

What this can add for clients

The savings from reduced shearing must be weighed against conception, litter size, lambs weaned, growth, feed required to reach joining condition, the need to shear some F1 and F2 animals, mob complexity and market suitability.

Where shedding may fit

Shedding genetics may suit low-infrastructure blocks, a new sheep enterprise, or situations where access to shearing is the main constraint. The decision is much harder to justify when it replaces an already productive, high-fertility self-replacing maternal flock.

Our current direction

We will continue a focused shedding nucleus, use the new shedding breeding values and make a limited number of rams available privately. Selection will not relax our thresholds for fertility, growth, carcase merit, feet, worm resistance or mature size. We will also not feed them more or less.

Client takeaway

Choose shedding for a clearly defined whole-farm reason—not simply to remove a shearing bill. Compare the complete system: lambs sold, feed demand, labour, infrastructure, market access and consistency.

Bob 403410

Our most exciting fully shedding sire, with black feet, good temperament, good scrotal circumference & held condition score during the drought as ram lamb out of a ewe lamb ready for joining at 6 months. As his daughters start to come through the system we look forward to lifting the production on their progeny.



FEET TESTED WHERE FEET FAIL

What we assess

- hoof and claw shape
- heel structure and pastern strength
- overgrowth and misshapen claws
- shelly hoof and white-line separation
- interdigital growths and lameness

Sale rams receive four foot and leg assessments. The worst score—not the best—is retained for selection.

How the genetics are tested

- high-rainfall winters and wet pasture
- repeated containment and intensive stocking
- increasing body weight and age
- pregnancy, lambing and lactation
- comparison across sire families and older ewes
- Repeated assessment helps separate a temporary environmental effect from a recurring weakness.

The client challenge: feet that fail when conditions become wet, intensive or prolonged



A funny photo from Bridie.

Clients are buying more than a ram whose feet look correct on sale day. They are accessing sire families assessed repeatedly through wet winters, soft ground, containment, high stocking pressure, weight gain and adult production. This increases the likelihood that progeny remain mobile, productive and easier to manage over their working lives.

Cloven Hills' Coopworth base traces back to Romney and Border Leicester ancestry—breeds that have shown useful resistance to footrot under wet challenge. More importantly, Cloven Hills sheep have then been repeatedly selected in the high-rainfall, intensive conditions where feet are most likely to fail. Animals and sire families showing structural weakness, shelly hoof, white-line separation, excessive overgrowth or recurring lameness are removed from the breeding program. This combines an adapted genetic base with generations of practical selection for feet that remain sound and functional over a sheep's working life.

A stronger starting point—not a substitute for management

Footrot risk remains strongly influenced by the organism present, introduced stock, drainage, stocking density, contaminated facilities and chronic carrier sheep. Adapted genetics cannot replace biosecurity and treatment, but they can reduce structural weakness and susceptibility within a flock.

Black pigmentation is used as a secondary preference where animals are otherwise comparable. It never overrides demonstrated structural soundness, repeated performance or sire-family history.

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO IMPROVE?

The client challenge is clear: reduce shearing, crutching and wool-handling labour without losing fertility, lamb growth, carcase value, feet or ease of management.

Cloven Hills has tested this question rather than assuming that removing wool automatically improves whole-farm profit. For four years we have run developing shedding maternal composites beside our performance-recorded woolled maternal composites under the same commercial conditions.

Industry research indicates that reproductive performance in shedding ewes can be more sensitive to body condition at joining. That matters because a lower-labour ewe is only commercially useful if she can also conceive, rear lambs and recover between joinings without requiring extra feed.

Client objective	Traits and checks
More lambs weaned	Focus on Conception, Litter Size, Ewe Rearing Ability and WR. Also check birth weight, lamb survival and mob size, paddock shelter & feed available at lambing. Wet and dry ewes post lambing, check udders.
Earlier lamb turnoff	Prioritise WWT and PWT, then check birth weight, fat and adult weight so faster lambs do not create bigger ewes or harder lambing.
Moderate replacement ewes	Use AWT and MCP+ to protect stocking rate and maintenance feed costs without sacrificing early growth.
Better carcasses and eating quality	Use PEMD, PFAT, yield traits, IMF and shear force as a balanced package. Do not chase marbling alone unless you have a specialty market and grid that rewards the trade offs.
Lower labour and health costs	Use repeated foot scores, WEC, dag ASBV's, and shedding where these match your environment and business objectives.



THE KEY

Build a ram team around the traits limiting profit on your farm. There is no perfect ram and every selection decision involves trade-offs.

MCP+ IN PLAIN ENGLISH

One MCP+ point represents approximately \$1 of predicted change in profit per ewe joined per year under the index assumptions.

A ram passes on, on average, half of his genetic advantage to his progeny. MCP+ is therefore a useful starting point for comparing rams, but it is not a cash guarantee and the trait mix still needs to suit the farm.

Example

Ram 1: MCP+ 180 versus Ram 2: MCP+ 150.

A 30-point difference $\times$ 50% transmitted $\times$ 65 ewes joined each year $\times$ four joining seasons = about \$3,900 in predicted additional value, assuming the index settings match the production system.

Where the value can come from:

- faster growth in direct progeny and future replacement daughters;
- more lambs weaned by the ram's daughters through conception, litter size and rearing ability;
- improved carcase value, lower mature maintenance cost and reduced animal-health or labour inputs.

Fast lambs without feeding bigger ewes

Early growth and adult weight are positively related, so simply selecting the fastest-growing lambs can create larger, more expensive ewes. Cloven Hills has measured and selected to bend that relationship over generations.

CH302333 is a clear example: top 1% for post-weaning growth but around the 60th percentile for adult weight—a curve bend of about 59 percentile points.

For clients, that means the opportunity for quicker turnoff while protecting stocking rate and maintenance feed demand.

An 85 kg dry ewe needs about 26% more maintenance energy per day than a 65 kg ewe. That cost is paid every year, not only when her lamb is being finished.

On the same feedbase, the extra maintenance demand means fewer ewes carried or more supplementary feed. That is why AWT is checked beside WWT, PWT and MCP+ rather than allowing growth to rise unchecked.

Select the index, then check the trait mix

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fertility — is more value coming from conception and rearing ability, or from a litter size already above your needs?• Growth — will lambs reach sale weight earlier without excessive birth weight or adult ewe size? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carcase — is extra weight accompanied by muscle, yield and eating quality?• Health and labour — do feet, worm resistance, dags, shedding and maternal behaviour suit your environment? |
|---|---|

There is no perfect ram. The objective is a balanced team that solves the client's priority without creating a new problem elsewhere.

Take-home: Start with MCP+, then check the component ASBVs so the predicted value can appear as more lambs weaned, earlier turnoff, better carcase value, lower labour and sensible mature ewe size.

ACCURATE DATA STARTS AT LAMBING

Lambing began on 27 June with the AI lambs. Through the first three weeks, the team recorded more than 2,500 lambs, with another 700 ewe lamb progeny to come mid August.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ every lamb weighed | ✓ survival recorded | ✓ pedigree and management |
| ✓ lambing ease recorded | ✓ maternal behaviour scored | groups checked |

These records feed directly back into selection decisions for the nucleus, commercial flock and future client genetics.

Why the recording matters to clients

The client challenge is knowing whether a number will repeat in the next generation. A breeding value is only as good as the records behind it. Recording birth weight, lambing ease, survival, maternal behaviour, growth, joining performance and adult structure allows Cloven Hills to select animals that remain productive across their working lives—not simply those that look impressive on sale day



THANKYOU TO THE TEAM AT CLOVEN HILLS



A bit about who's doing the hard work

Connor – worked with us on his holidays while he studied Animal Nutrition at CSU, Wagga. On finishing uni, he travelled and worked with stud and commercial cattle in both Canada & Western Australia. Connor's now our Senior Livestock Farm Hand and works with Kate on managing the stud and commercial sheep.

Denes – Denes is a welder and mechanic from Hungry. He works with Chris to keep our vehicles, plant, water system and running, pastures and fodder crops sown. Denes loves animals and continues to be fascinated by seeing what makes happy sheep when feeding in containment.

Rob – studied agriculture in Scotland and has been working on farms in Australia. Having worked with sheep in Scotland he was keen to work on an Australian lambing in the outdoors. On his weekends he's enjoys hiking in the Grampians and along the coast. Rob is with us for 6 months.

Harry – having just finished school in 2025 we are enjoying having Harry home for a GAP year sprinkled with some travel and work experience. After a busy summer and joining, Harry had a couple of months in Nanjing China, visiting our friend Mr Xu in Nanjing, who was an amazing host in enabling Harry to experience Chinese language, and culture. Harry then travelled around China and Mongolia before coming back into lambing.



THANKYOU TO THE TEAM AT CLOVEN HILLS CONT.

Rupert and Bridie – Thankyou also to Bridie & Rupert, who come home and work tirelessly on their holidays. The last few years have certainly been a lot of work but also a very good window to learn a lot about market and seasonal volatility. Family farms are not only built on this hard work but the continuous learning and conversations they are around from a young age. It is



remarkable what they pick up! In farming, we are constantly navigating and adapting to the changing seasons, markets and global instability, which impact our businesses - often instantly.

Having hosted many young people in the past 20 years, our insight is the most equipped are those that have had exposure to not necessarily farming but a family business or a business they have worked in regularly and understand what's involved for 'rubber to hit the road'.

Dr Tom Granleese GENETICIST

Tom started consulting to Cloven Hills prior to the 2020 joining program, to ensure the stud's clients continued to enjoy the benefits of up-to-date technology and information, when making their ram and ewe selections. Tom is pivotal in balancing the many traits alongside all the physical classing data collected to optimize genetic gain in the paddock, ensuring genetic decisions are meaningful to our clients' farm businesses, cost, production and target market. Road testing genetics commercially at Cloven Hills gives invaluable insights. Tom is engaged with the NSW Department of Primary Industries working on several genetics projects, from goats to cattle.

Tom & Kate recently attended Lambex, a fantastic industry event and enjoyed catching up with those fortunate to be able to spare the time and \$ to get there. It is always important to hear how every farming business is tackling different changes and preparing for the next.

It was particularly encouraging to see the number of young people in the lamb industry, both attending and inspiring others speaking on a range of topics. It is certainly an exciting time for our industry, there is plenty to be optimistic about!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Timing	Event
August 2026	Ram-team stocktake webinar with Dr Tom Granleese — date to be confirmed
29 September 2026	Cloven Hills spring on-farm ram sale

Preparing for the spring sale

Take stock of the average fertility, litter size, growth, adult weight and carcase profile of your current ram team. The Cloven Hills team can help identify where the next purchase will have the greatest commercial impact.

We look forward to seeing you this spring.



A FEW PHOTOS ...

