

A.D.W.R DEFINITION

Daily Wean Ratio is the weight of ewe divided by the weight of lamb at weaning and adjusted to 100 days. At Stirling this is also accrued from season to season as a multi-year figure and from generation to generation as a single year figure to become Accrued Daily Wean Ratio.

The measurement began in 2009 this year being the 8th whilst a family was started in 2014 with like being joined to like.

The 2014 Wool family cut 5.2kg, with the ADWR of 0.51, whilst the ADWR family cut 4.5kg with an ADWR of 0.76 leaving a difference of 0.25 or 17.5kg per 70kg ewe, at \$3 per kg or \$52.50, all for the price of 0.7kg wool at \$9 or \$6.30, a difference of \$46.20.

Woolcut is frame x skin, whilst the meat / lamb philosophy, of volume is a more suitable conformation for Western Victoria's damp climate.

A.D.W.R, simply put is N.L.W x Growth x Efficiency. Efficiency remains completely unmeasured by Sheep Genetics Australia and explains the ever increasing size of sheep. Remember the conversion rate of fish is 1.2 - 1; chicken 2-1; pig 3-1; lamb 4-1; and cattle 7 to 8 to 1.

ASBV – NLW DEFICIENCIES

The ASBV system has been inherited from the pig and poultry industries where climate and feed is controlled and as such are strongly linked. Remember inaccuracies of the N.L.W traits are exaggerated by more excessive environmental interference than all other traits.

The first 3 years of Stirling's trait line were almost entirely E.T transfers from Uardry purchased ewes and semen and so should have replicated close to the Dohne Australia line.

The second year did not, dipping from -0.3 to -3.7. it was drought effected, but so was most of Australia. Stirling has run a whole stud grain ban since 2009. Bin feeding would maintain this trait line but why are the linkages not accounting for this feed difference? They are genetically failing.

In 2014 the Stirling trait line rises dramatically from -4.1 to -0.8, with the Uardry dispersal sheep rising to 40% of the stud, yet the average A.D.W.R of the 20 UD prefix dams is only 0.56 whilst the average A.D.W.R of the 30 ST prefix dams in the 2016 catalogue is substantially higher at 0.61. To maintain accuracy with this the NLW trait should have decreased, instead it has increased dramatically. Climate and feed linkage are failing between properties.

Whilst Stirling day of birth records, most Australian Dohne studs yard mother and centre the birth date producing both growth and NLW inaccuracies.

COMPARING LAMB PRODUCTION SELECTION METHODS

Stirling 2016 Ram Catalogue – 50 rams

BIRTH & WEAN TYPE	CATALOGUE NOS.	AV. NLW ASBV's	AV. A.D.W.R
SINGLE BORN	19	-2.6	0.55
SINGLE WEAN	27	-2.1	0.54
TWIN BORN	31	-1	0.61
TWIN WEAN	23	-1	0.65

Remember that birth type and wean type are single year events whereas N.L.W and ADWR are generationally linked sheep like apple trees bear on second-year wood.

1. Note that ADWR's slight decrease from single born to single wean can be explained by the increased number of twin-born in the column which will be lighter.
2. Note NLW's record of no difference between twin-born and twin wean is a figure failure within a strategic area of selection within properly.