



## ON PROPERTY SALE - MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

Lameroo SA | 10am Inspection - 1pm Sale

### 2025 UPDATE

As you would expect the last 12 to 18 months have been tough at Ridgway, the drought has increased our workload with feeding requiring a lot of extra resources. One positive is seeing how our stock have responded in these conditions proving their durability.

Over the last 5 years we have been working towards adding more muscle and genetic fat to our sheep. A substantial increase in these traits has proved invaluable during this dry time. Those animals with higher muscle and fat held their condition well and needed less supplementary feed to do so. We had great joining results and the early weaning percentages we have recorded so far are better than we expected considering the poor season.

Since 2020 our flock has seen a 132% increase in YEMD and a 43% increase in YFAT. Our aim was to maintain our wool cut as we increased our muscle and fat. We have been able to achieve this and in fact our average YCFW has risen slightly from 28.8 to 29.2 over this period. We are quite pleased with this result and will continue to improve in these areas to breed a low care, profitable and productive animal.

### RIDGWAY 230187 SUCCESS

Ridgway 230187 created a lot of attention at last years field days for his combination of strong phenotype and outstanding Merino Select ASVB's. We sold him for \$15,000 at the 2024 Classings Classic to Nepowie Stud, WA, with semen shares to Westwood Poll, WA.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2025

Australian Sheep & Wool Show, Bendigo VIC - Friday 18th - Sunday 20th July

South East Merino Field Day, Keith SA - Wednesday 23rd July

Hamilton Sheepvention, Hamilton VIC - Sunday 3th & Monday 4th August

**RIDGWAY ON-PROPERTY SALE - 50 WALKER ROAD, LAMEROO SA - MONDAY 11TH AUGUST**

Classings Classic, Murray Bridge SA - Monday 1st September

Matt 0439 460 554 Ric 0459 432 679  
[merinos@ridgwaymerinos.com.au](mailto:merinos@ridgwaymerinos.com.au)  
[www.ridgwaymerinos.com.au](http://www.ridgwaymerinos.com.au)  
[facebook.com/ridgwaymerinos](https://facebook.com/ridgwaymerinos)





## MEASURE, MEASURE, MEASURE

We are continually adding to the ever-increasing bank of measurements we use to help us, and our clients identify animals with superior genetics to increase productivity and profitability. This year, the rams we are offering have been measured for over 25 different traits, providing our buyers with a wealth of information to support more informed and confident selections.

New traits this year include a score of 1-5 on traits such as wool character, wool colour, fleece rot and dust penetration as well as 7 different foot structure traits, which were independently scored. A full list of trait measurements can be provided on request and will be available on our website in the lead up to our sale.

Welfare traits are becoming increasingly important in the breeding of merinos, as they directly impact both animal well-being and farm efficiency. We have measured traits such as breech wrinkle and breech cover since ceasing mulesing. Drench resistance is a growing challenge in sheep production, and the worm egg count ASBV (YWEC) is an important tool for identifying animals with greater genetic resistance to internal parasites. Typically, we don't see a high enough worm burden on our farm for us to measure individual worm egg counts. However, we are closely following the development of a new test that measures animals' resistance to worm infection via a saliva swab and look forward to using this technology in the future to help us progress to breeding worm resistant sheep.

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AT RIDGWAY

During late June and early July this year we were lucky enough to participate in a pedigree matching trial run by the company Genesmith. This involved the use of artificial intelligence cameras placed in the paddock which match lambs to their mothers.

The information gained from lamb-to-dam matching is invaluable in making correct classing and joining decisions. Gaining accurate, cost and time effective dam data is something we identified as an area we could improve. We are excited to be involved in the development of this new technology and look forward to its use in the coming years.



## RIDGWAY 170005 CONTINUES TO EXCEL

In late 2022 we were given the opportunity to enter Ridgway 170005 into the Muresk, WA and New England, NSW Sire Evaluation Trails as a link sire.

It was encouraging to see 170005 perform extremely well in both trials against 25 leading sires from across the country. He delivered a strong and balanced performance across wool, carcase, and welfare traits, making him a valuable sire for a wide range of breeding objectives.

He once again demonstrated his dual-purpose characteristics scoring well for both wool performance and carcase traits. This resulted in him being a trait leader for all of the 4 index scores (Fine Wool, Wool Production, Sustainable Merino and Merino Lamb) in the New England trial and 2 of the 4 in the Muresk trial (Merino Production Plus and Wool Production Plus).

170005 now ranks 9th out of 421 sires entered into sire evaluations over the past 5 years for the Sustainable Merino Index. This index is based on a production system where income from sheepmeat and wool production is reasonably balanced.



## 2025 SALE RAMS & EWES

We're proud of how this year's sale rams have developed and are excited to present them at our on-property sale on Monday, August 11th. We will also offer a select few at the Classings Classic sale in Murray Bridge on the 1st September.

Following our sale, rams will also be available through private selection by appointment.

In late September we will have 1 ½, 4 ½ and 5 ½ ewes available for sale with enquiries on these stock welcome.

Ridgway offers a free classing service to their clients and delivery of purchased rams can be arranged.