



1926 Romney Ram



PAKI - ITI

ROMNEY - ROMTEX - SUFFOLK - SUFTEX

2021

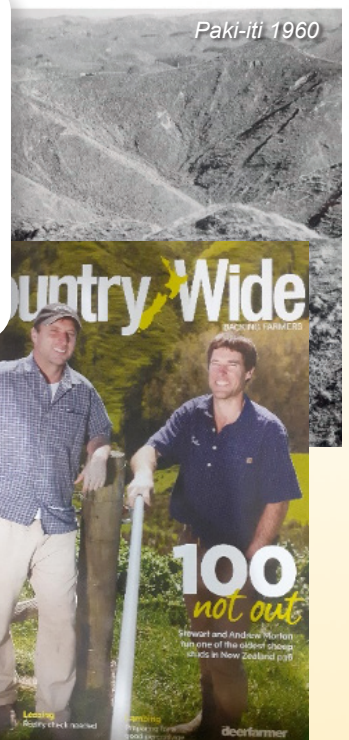
101 YEARS OF RAM BREEDING



Aftermath of 2004 floods



Three generations at Paki-iti - Archie, William and Pete Morton



Paki-iti 1960

GREAT NEWS

News of \$10/kg winter contracts for lamb sets a new record and sets an optimistic tone for the outlook for lamb over the remainder of this year. Two companies have offered minimum priced contracts for October and November. The top end starts at \$9.50/kg, with one company finishing at \$9.00/kg in early November and the other runs through to the end of December dropping down to \$7.45/kg. This is still over \$1.00/kg more than last year. In addition, farmers can expect more lambs on the ground this year due to better mating conditions (helping reverse a four-year trend of declining lamb numbers), which can only mean great news for the sheep industry.

However, there are some dark clouds on the horizon.

The current policy of planting trees on farmland to offset emissions is absolute lunacy, a tragedy, stupid, short sighted and calculated. How else would you describe this current policy that penalises an industry that contributes so much to the NZ economy?

The Paris Agreement, that was adopted by nearly every nation in 2015 to address climate change and its negative impacts clearly stated, "...in a manner that does not threaten food production."

So, how is this going to be achieved? Since 1990 farmers have improved lambing performance by 31%, lamb weight by 37% and lamb production per kg/ewe by 116%. So, to 'not threaten food production,' are farmers expected to continue to make such significant production gains?

According to the Ministry for the Environment, greenhouse gas emissions for beef cattle have dropped 6% and sheep 41% from 1990 to 2018. These have been steadily declining for more than 20 years and are currently sitting 31% below 1990 levels. The conclusion is that the Agricultural Emissions Scheme is not about saving the climate from farmers, it is about using the comparatively less costly emission reductions from agriculture to help the Government meet its national emissions target.

BREEDING PROGRAMMES UPDATE

With the objective of improving in all our breeding programmes to be the best in New Zealand, we concentrate on three key areas - Constitution, Structure and then Performance.

Constitution

"CONSTITUTION SIGNIFIES THOSE PHYSICAL QUALITIES POSSESSED BY AN ANIMAL WHICH INDICATE ITS ABILITY TO ADAPT ITSELF TO THE VARYING CONDITIONS OF ITS EXISTENCE" - D. R. Mellet 1930

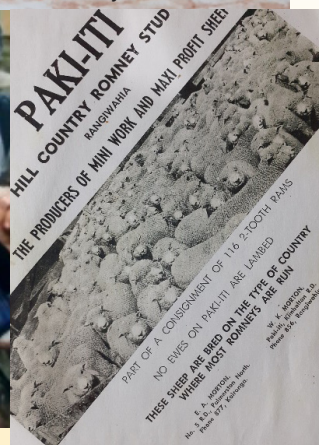
This definition has not changed in 90 years and now 101 years on, it's still the cornerstone of Paki-iti's breeding programmes. That is why the Romneys and Romtex's are bred on hill country and why the Suffolk and Suftex ram hoggets are wintered on these hills - to test their ability to adapt to the everchanging environment. That is also why a type of animal has evolved, one that is moderate, deep and muscular and with a spring of rib. Having good constitution equals longevity and stay ability, traits which we select for with our sires through EBV's.

Continued overleaf





1985 Romney Ram



1950's Romney Ram

Structure

The 2019 newsletter discussed that a 2018 B & L Genetics ram health and husbandry study found that of the rams culled more than 30% of those were due to feet problems and that respondents were particularly concerned about feet issues.

Since the mid 1800's when New Zealand sheep numbers rapidly grew, why is it that the industry still suffers from structural issues to this day? History is littered with breeding decisions that has failed to breed the problems out. From trimming feet, to breeders selecting on performance data only, to introducing new breeds with inferior feet from countries with different climates, to farming breeds of sheep

in their wrong environment, to single trait selection for traits like facial eczema disregarding structure.

Nature had a way of dealing with this issue before man was involved. Any animal with faulty or infected feet that affected their mobility would be removed by predators, thus ensuring a natural selection for sound feet.

At Paki-iti we recognise this is a nation-wide issue and that is why structure is one of our key areas of selection in all four of our breeding programmes. This is mainly around the two main factors causing foot problems, being the structure of the foot and also the natural resistance or susceptibility to foot diseases.

ROMNEY & ROMTEX PERFORMANCE

NZ Maternal Sires compared to Paki-iti Romney & Romtex Sires
used with progeny born 2018 – 2020 (46 Sires)

	NZ Maternal Sires	Paki-iti Maternal Sires		Traits selecting for in the maternal breeding programmes	
NZ Maternal Worth*	1948	2429	+25%	Growth - 100 Days*	- Meat Yield*
Dual Purpose Lamb Growth				- 200 Days*	- Dags*
+ Dual Purpose Adult Size	988	1210	+23%	- Survivability*	- Longevity/Stayability
Dual Purpose Wool	159	177	+11%	- Fertility*	- Worm FEC*
Dual Purpose Survival	385	476	+24%	- Hogget fertility*	- Wool weight*
Dual Purpose CReproduction	309	566	+83%	- Adult weight*	
				- Facial Eczema*	

Report Value Report Average Group Average SIL GE# 38620

*NZMW = cents per ewe lambing

* Genomic trait's measured using molecular breeding values blended with estimated breeding values.

Facial Eczema Update

This past year we continued testing the facial eczema Romney sub flock at 0.4mg/kg as well as starting breeding

numbers to meet targets has seen us commit 120 Romney and Romtex ram hoggets to do an initial methane test in early October to identify sheep that produce less methane. AgResearch has shown that after three generations the

Methane Testing

Genetics has been identified as one way of helping to reduce methane emissions. The view that any solution has got to be better than carbon farming trees or reducing livestock

Genetics has been identified as one way of helping to reduce methane emissions. The view that any solution has got to be better than carbon farming trees or reducing livestock



Wintering terminal rams



1985 22th ewes



Fernvale 402/86 - \$35,000



William Morton



1990 Romney Rams

difference between two lines of sheep, one bred for low methane and one high, is 11% per kg of feed eaten. They have also found it's important not to just breed for less methane as you automatically breed for smaller sheep. The difference between the top sire line and bottom sire line

was 20% less methane emitted per kg of feed eaten over this period. At this stage methane will not be part of the traits we select for but breeding values will be available for sale rams if required

SUFFOLK & SUFTEX PERFORMANCE

NZ Terminal Sires compared to Paki-iti Suffolk & Suftex Sires

used with progeny born 2018 – 2020 (56 Sires)

	NZ Terminal Sires	Paki-iti Terminal Sires		Traits selecting for in the terminal breeding programmes	
Standard Terminal Worth*	1382	1686	+18%	Growth - 100 Days*	- Blackness
Terminal Sire Lamb Growth	747	859	+13%	- 200 Days*	- Longevity/Stay ability
Terminal Sire Meat Yield	509	637	+20%	- Meat Yield	- Survival
Terminal Sire Survival	87	189	+54%	- Meat Quality – Tenderness*	* Genomic trait's measured using molecular breeding values blended with estimated breeding values.
				- Intramuscular Fat*	

Report Value Report Average Group Average SIL GE# 38620

*NZTW = cents per lamb offspring

Meat Quality

One of the challenges of breeding is identifying genetics that we think are going to be important 5 – 10 years out. This may mean investing in traits that the market currently does not pay for and also investing in traits that may benefit others in the value chain. Meat Quality is one such trait. It is estimated that only 30% of New Zealand's lamb is optimal for meat quality in terms of tenderness and intramuscular fat. The lamb industry over the past 20 years has been very much production driven, which has resulted in breeding

animals that are too lean. With the fat coming out, so has the tenderness, juiciness and flavour.

In our Suffolk's and Suftex's breeding programs along with Growth, Yield and Survivability, we are continuing to place importance on the meat quality traits through genomic sampling of the ram hoggets and also our involvement in progeny testing at Duncraigen which is being used to validate the genomics for meat quality.

Meat Quality is one of those traits that we select for regardless of premiums being offered to ensure all lambs offer that high end eating experience.

GENETICS WORK

B+LNZ Genetics have calculated that a farmer with a 3000 ewe flock, that's been buying SIL-recorded rams since 1999 will have benefited by about \$173,000 in just genetic merit.

This is based on the average genetic merit in SIL. When purchasing from a ram breeder like Paki-iti with higher-than-average genetic merit, you can expect the returns to be higher still. Genetics do work.



WAIRARAPA SHEEP & BEEF FARM BUSINESS OF THE YEAR 2021



Photo credit: Wairarapa sheep and beef awards

As a supplier of Suftex rams to Richard and Becks Tosswill, we were thrilled to attend the winners field day for the Wairarapa Sheep and Beef Business of the Year at their 646ha Gladstone property. Coming to the property with limited breeding experience in 2009, their 5-year average lambing is now 148%, average

weaning weight is 31kg with 45% of lambs sold POM at 16.7kg, helping make sheep the real driver of profitability for the business at 26.5c/kg/dm.

• Key learnings from the Tosswill's were

- weighting and condition scoring is vital
- growing out young stock sets their future potential
- early decisions were the best decisions
- understanding your property takes time
- control what you can control

FURTHER KEY LEARNINGS

All Paki-iti staff spent an interesting day at this year's Ag Innovation conference in Palmerston North. Two stand out speakers included a foresight practitioner and a motivational expert.

Melissa Clark-Reynolds works with numerous companies on strategy and foresight and shared some of her futurist views on new technologies and societal changes –

- red meat is for the top end of the market,
- lab grown meat will be a cheaper option and have a place where consumers may not have a choice like in hospitals or prisons
- dairy products are more at risk as they can be replicated more cheaply and effectively
- future technology will be on our fridges – all food will be ordered through it through the likes of Amazon
- there is a future opportunity for 'bundling' – selling meat, with a suitable wine and a cheese to accompany it
- the future of NZ farms is in multiple income streams – carbon, tourism, meat, and
- water, climate and now glyphosate are just some of the issues in the future

Gilbert Enoka had the room spellbound as a 40-minute presentation raced through in what seemed like 5 minutes. Gilbert, the All-Blacks mental skills coach, gave in insight into the psychology behind individual and team success. Listening to Gilbert, it was easy to see why the All Blacks are so successful. Here are some of his take home messages which are applicable for everyone.

- your past doesn't equal your future
- work hard, work smart
- my word is my honour and I seal things with a handshake
- guiding principal with the All Blacks, a no dickheads policy – you can't be a positive person on the field and a dickhead off it
- culture eats strategy for breakfast
- success is a lousy teacher
- there are no silver bullets and major solutions,
- radically traditional – preserve the core – don't mess with it, disrupt the edges, and
- better not bigger – it's better to increase 1000 things by 1% than try and increase one thing by 1000%

ORDER FORMS RETURNED BY 23RD OCTOBER

RAM SELLING BEGINS 18TH NOVEMBER

LEASE RAM HOGGETS AVAILABLE FROM 7TH

100% SATISFACTION

We strive to achieve 100% client satisfaction when using Paki-iti rams, from the purchasing of the rams to the performance of the rams and their progeny. If you feel we have delivered below this expectation we would like to know.

CONTACT DETAILS

Stewart Morton: Ph (06) 328 5772 Mob (0274) 453 110 **Andrew Morton:** Ph (06) 328 2856 Fax (06) 328 2812 Mob (0274) 488 511
Email: pakiroms@farmside.co.nz