

DORPER NEWS



December 2019

From the Committee

Where has the year gone?

Lambing is well and truly dusted with weaning now underway. We hope you have all had a good year and are looking forward to 2020! This newsletter celebrates some of the successes our breeders have had around the show scene this year.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2020!!

Flock typing by GT

This years NZ Agricultural Show judge, GT Ferreira offered to type studs while he was here.

Christine McQuillan took up the opportunity :

GT was involved in the early days of the development of Dorpers in South Africa and although he now is mostly involved in the production of Merino and Angora fibre, supplying the resulting fabric to exclusive fashion houses, he advised me Dorpers are his passion.

I jumped at the opportunity to have GT visit my stud and assess the flock. Rather than grading them using the pointing system he categorised the sheep into 3 categories being top, intermediate and bottom and of course cull. Within each category they were also rated top, middle and bottom.

NEW ZEALAND DORPER BREED SOCIETY

He advised that only rams from the top category should be used and ewes from top and intermediate categories.

GT taught me how to assess the sheep starting with the head, working along the top line then the brisket and placement of legs etc. using the breed standards. He made me assess every single sheep and talk through my assessment of them, this was a great learning opportunity putting my assessment skills into practice.

I was pleasantly surprised to find there were very few sheep in the lower category and have removed the majority of these from my flock.

I marked each sheep with a colour spray - green top, yellow intermediate and purple for the lower category. The following weekend I used coloured cable ties in their ear tags so now I can easily identify the different categories of each sheep, the green ones being my top flock.

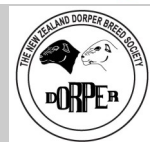
I will continue to put this practice into place going forward.

I would like to acknowledge GT for his time and sharing his extensive knowledge of the breed with me. It was certainly a wonderful learning opportunity and has put me on the path of continuous improvement.

Christine McQuillan
Persepolis Dorpers

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2019 Feature Show results

This year's feature show was held at the Ellesmere A&P Show on 26 October. Six breeders exhibited 40 sheep on a great Canterbury spring day.

It was a winning day for Jo & Pete Townshend's Kilmarnock Dorper Stud achieving the Champion Ewe and Ram ribbons with the ram going on to be awarded overall Champion Dorper.

The Reserve Champion Ram was awarded to L&C Drummonds Belfield Park Stud with the Reserve Champion Ewe going to Don & Eunice Edgecombe's Maple Genetics stud. The results are as follows:

18mth + ram	Under 18mth ram	18mth + ewe	Under 18mth ewe
1. L&C Drummond	1. J&P Townshend	1. D&E Edgecombe	1. J&P Townshend
2. L&C Drummond	2. J&P Townshend	2. L&C Drummond	2. J&P Townshend
3. R Keen	3. D&E Edgecombe	3. J&P Townshend	3. J&P Townshend
	4. D&E Edgecombe	4. J&J McPhee	4. L&C Drummond
	5. L&C Drummond	5. L&C Drummond	5. D&E Edgecombe

A total of \$495 Feature Show prize money was divided out across the four classes with \$35 paid for first place, \$25 for second, \$20 for third, \$15 for fourth and \$10 for fifth.

If you are keen to host a future Feature Show please let us know.



Champion Ram—Kilmarnock 190/18



Champion Ewe—Kilmarnock 15/18



Reserve Champion Ram—Slopehill 6/16



Reserve Champion Ewe—Maple 724/17

ANZCO Rakaia Hoof & Hook Competition:

Congratulations to Jim and Jenny McPhees Arimba White Dorper stud for achieving 2nd and 3rd place in the Hoof & Hook competition at the Ellesmere show. Their two White Dorper/Texel cross ewe lambs were 'overlooked' on the hoof due to their smaller size—however when it came to the hook they blew the rest of the 16 entries (except the winner) out of the water!

As we Dorper sheep breeders know—they don't have to be big to produce the meat!

NZ Agricultural Show—Christchurch

Show Secretary

WEDNESDAY 13
TO FRIDAY 15
NOVEMBER 2019THE NEW ZEALAND
AGRICULTURAL
SHOW 2019
Brought to you by the Canterbury A&P Association

For this years show we had 28 White Dorpers and 40 Dorpers exhibited, each type by five breeders.

The judge was GT Ferreira from Australia who judged very much to the South African breed standards. It was a great learning opportunity for all exhibitors and those watching the judging. GT was happy to explain his placings and share his knowledge with everyone.

Congratulations to John Roux & Mart-Marie Schwartz from the Lowveld Dorper Stud for winning the Supreme Champion Dorper award with their ram Lowveld 381/17



Champion Dorper Ram, Grand Champion Ram and Supreme Dorper exhibit—Lowveld 381/17



Reserve Champion Dorper Ram Lowveld 434/18



Champion Dorper Ewe Lowveld 425/18



Reserve Champion Dorper Ewe Lowveld 420/18



Champion White Dorper Ram Belfield Park 3/18



Reserve Champion White Dorper Ram Slopehill 6/16



Champion & Grand White Dorper Ewe Kilmarnock 24/16



Reserve Champion White Dorper Ewe Winton 95/15

Full results can be found : <https://www.theshow.co.nz/competitions/results/Sheep 2019>

NZ Agricultural Show— more results



Progeny class:

This year our newly introduced Progeny class proved popular with eight entries. The class featured three progeny by one sire, being male, female or mixed under the age of 18 months who had been shown in their respective classes.

The top four results were:

Place	Breeder	Sheep	Sire	Type
1st	L&C Drummond	2 rams, 1 ewe	Rivermoor 15/16	White Dorper
2nd	J Roux & MM Schwartz	1 ram, 2 ewes	Lowveld 276/16	Dorper
3rd	D & E Edgecombe	1 ram, 2 ewes	Dell 160196 "Dell Boy"	Dorper
4th	J & P Townshend	1 ram, 2 ewes	Gossamer Downs 110422	White Dorper

All Breeds Super Ewe Class:

Congratulations to Don and Eunice Edgecombe with their Maple Genetics ewe achieving 2nd place in the All Breeds Super Ewe (Meat Breeds) Class. This class (with 18 entries this year) is open to all meat breeds at the show and is judged on confirmation, weight ratio of the ewe (80kg) and the combined weight of the lambs (94.5kg), eye muscle scanning of the lambs and the index data from SIL. The lambs are sired by Amarula 165984 (AU AI).

Well done guys!!

Sheep 125 Celebration March 2021—change of venue

It has now been decided to move the celebration from Wanaka so it coincides with the NZ Agricultural Show in November 2021. This decision hasn't been taken lightly by the organising committee, however it was felt that more NZSBA members would attend if it was held in Christchurch. Planning for the new venue will commence in the new year.

2020 Dorper AGM

Planning is progressing for next years AGM being held in Hamilton over the 2nd weekend of May.

Aside from the AGM, trips are being planned to include a large sheep milking farm as well as the Hobbiton movie set for those Lord of the Rings fans (although apparently it is interesting even for non-fans!)

More info to come in the new year.

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**WE WISH
EWE
A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

If you would like to write a contribution/share news/advertise stock for sale in these newsletters please contact Cristine at the above email address