Welcome to the 2026 Winter Edition of the Cashmore Oaklea Newsletter

30 JULY 2026

After several seasons of uncertainty, it is pleasing to see much of south-eastern Australia enjoying a more positive start to the year. Whilst seasonal conditions have still varied considerably between districts, many producers have finally had the opportunity to rebuild pasture covers, improve livestock condition and look ahead with a renewed sense of confidence. There are still areas that continue to do it tough, but overall the season has provided a welcome improvement on the prolonged dry conditions that challenged so many farming businesses over recent years.

Equally encouraging is the strength of the livestock industry. Lamb prices have remained well above expectations and demand for quality lamb continues to be strong. Current market indicators suggest these favourable conditions should continue throughout the coming months, providing producers with an excellent opportunity to capitalise on improved seasonal conditions.

Strong markets are encouraging, but they also reinforce the importance of making the most of every opportunity. The fundamentals of sheep production remain unchanged—fertility, lamb survival, growth and carcase value continue to be the biggest drivers of profitability. Throughout this newsletter we share some of the observations and results from the past twelve months that have influenced the way we continue to develop the Cashmore Oaklea bloodline.

Thank you for your continued support of Cashmore Oaklea. We appreciate the trust you place in our breeding program and wish you and your family every success in the months ahead.

The Cashmore Oaklea Team

IMPORTANT
DATES 2026
PLAN AHEAD WITH CASHMORE OAKLEA

THURSDAY
24 SEPTEMBER
Oaklea Ram Inspections

MONDAY
28 SEPTEMBER
Cashmore Park Ram Inspections

WEDNESDAY
30 SEPTEMBER
Annual Ram Sale
via AuctionsPlus

THURSDAY
5 NOVEMBER
Ewe Sale 1
via AuctionsPlus

THURSDAY
3 DECEMBER
Ewe Sale 2
via AuctionsPlus

heep GENETICS

Data Quality Score
Data Quality Score - Overall
Data Quality Score: 99.0
★★★★★
5 Stars

99.0
5 STARS
★★★★★

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EBV =>$$$
Cashmore Oaklea
Performance Maternals

Cashmore Park Farm Update

Jock Keiller

After spending a couple of years away studying and a year abroad in Scotland I thought a 12 month stint at home to give dad a hand was well overdue before the next adventure begins. I have quite enjoyed the year so far and look forward to a very busy lambing period ahead.

On the back of the tighter 2025 autumn we were pleased to see above average lamb survival across the stud and commercial flocks. However this came at a cost with lower overall preg scan results of 165%. Mixed summer crop results led to some reasonable and some poor fodder on offer for lamb finishing, overall a good result with carcass weights averaging 2kg more than recent years. In the end I think John was quite pleased to see the last lamb truckload drive out the gate in late April.

We would like to thank all clients who purchased 4,100 ewes and ewe lambs in the December 2025 sale. We hope they've performed well and look forward to hearing about lambing results this coming year. Our flock again experienced low parasite levels throughout early 26 leading to excellent ewe joining weights of 65kg. These ewes were all meticulously combed through in February with heavy classing practices employed aiming to improve overall foot and leg structure, claw length and body type. My younger brother Charlie is particularly tough on the Nudies, it's a wonder we even have any left at Cashmore.

The summer months again saw continued data collection and sorting of the sale ram lambs. 80% of the ram team this year consisted of ram lambs with many being used across both adults and ewe lambs. An excellent line of Nudie ram lambs was produced with many hailing from the expansive ET program in March 25. The continued genetic gain resulted in another 5 nudie ram lambs breaking into the 180s on the MCP+ index. The pick however, was a Maternal ram 254206 (pictured below), born out of a ewe lamb,he was tricky to find due to his late climb up the MCP+ list, where he eventually settled as the number 1 ram in the country. He just made the weight cut off, 37 kg, to be joined to adult ewes and was later used to mate ewe lambs as well, overall serving close to 250 ewes and ewe lambs. We are hopeful a good son will be produced and look forward to using him in next years program.

An exceptional preg scanning result was had with 6,430 adult ewes scanning at 190% (seen below). Albeit the ewe lambs were below average scanning 125%, but the mob did include ewe lambs born from ewe lambs. No doubt the excellent adult ewe condition at joining played a pivotal role in this outcome. The most eye-opening result being the 664 Nudie and F1 ewes scanning at 204%. This is a testament to what the genetics are capable of achieving when given the opportunity.

Some excellent and much appreciated feedback was received from clients with similar scanning results seen in numerous flocks right across the country.

All the best for the lambing season and we look forward to seeing you at the annual sale.

Regards Jock Keiller

Cashmore Park rams

Cashmore Park Farm Update continued...

Cashmore Park
Prime Lamb Genes

Pregnancy Scanning at Cashmore Park June 2026

Mob	Description	Empty		Single		Twin		Trip		Total	embryo %
SOUTH OF RD	3,4,5 yo Nudie and some 4 yo F1	2	0.00	88	0.13	458	0.69	116	0.17	664	2.04
COFFEE MATERNALS	MA ex Maternal stud	7	0.01	101	0.16	450	0.71	72	0.11	630	1.93
NSW	MA ex Maternal stud	8	0.01	86	0.15	373	0.65	106	0.18	573	2.01
SELECTION	MA ex Maternal stud	4	0.01	45	0.13	231	0.68	62	0.18	342	2.03
MOLES	1.5 yo ex Maternal stud	12	0.02	80	0.15	366	0.69	70	0.13	528	1.94
ANTONY	ex stud Nudie MA & 1.5 yo	38	0.05	215	0.28	457	0.60	48	0.06	758	1.68
MILICH	back cross M x N 1.5 yo	7	0.04	45	0.25	116	0.65	10	0.06	178	1.72
TALL MILL	Nudie stud, lots of 1.5 yo	17	0.04	90	0.23	246	0.64	30	0.08	383	1.75
FIRST POTATOE MINT	Nudie stud, lots of 1.5 yo	21	0.05	101	0.25	246	0.61	36	0.09	404	1.74
WATSONS	Nudie stud, lots of 1.5 yo	16	0.04	69	0.17	280	0.68	49	0.12	414	1.87
SPUD SHED	Maternal stud, lots of 1.5 yo	12	0.03	51	0.12	284	0.64	96	0.22	443	2.05
LUPIN HILL	Maternal stud, lots of 1.5 yo	12	0.03	56	0.12	303	0.67	81	0.18	452	2.00
FUN RUN	Maternal stud, lots of 1.5 yo	5	0.01	57	0.14	273	0.67	73	0.18	408	2.01
TERMINALS	PD / WS adult and 1.5 yo	12	0.05	88	0.35	147	0.58	6	0.02	253	1.58
TOTAL		**173**	0.03	**1172**	0.18	**4230**	0.66	**855**	0.13	**6430**	1.90

Top of the national list

- **Ram lamb 1500992025254206**
- **MCP+ Index 202**
- **Combined Lambplan 1.8 million males**

Oaklea Farm Update

Alex Lyon

The spring of 2025 brought a welcome change of pace at Oaklea. Following several challenging seasons, favourable conditions allowed our breeding program to really express its potential. We achieved an excellent pull-through of our June drop wether lambs, with more than 90% sold in the first week of November at an average dressed weight of 26.9 kg.

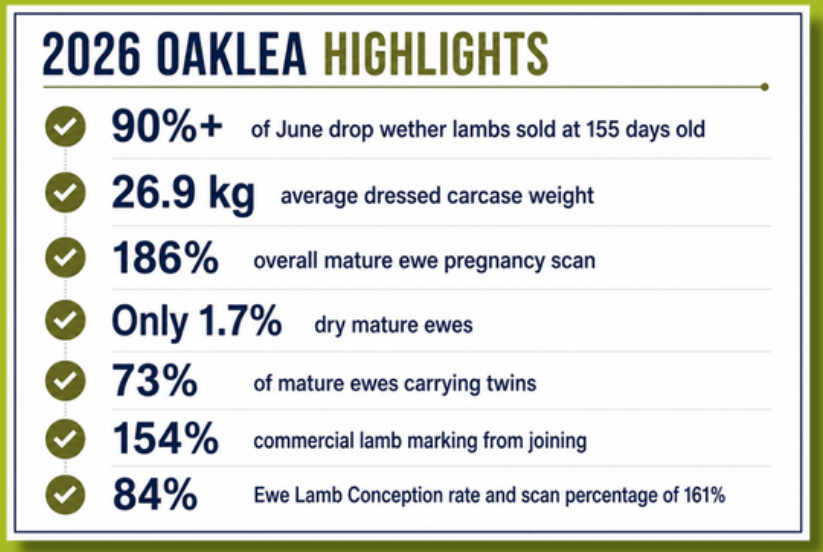
For the first time, our mature stud ewes lambed on our new farm, which proved to be a great success. The more sheltered conditions were a welcome contrast to the exposed conditions often experienced on Don's home farm by the coast. The teasers certainly did their job, with more than three-quarters of the ewes lambing during the second week. Tagging more than 200 lambs each day in 17-degree weather with virtually no wind was something we'd rarely experienced during July in Kongorong.

The favourable spring continued well into summer, leaving the ewes in excellent condition for joining. This year we joined 1,500 commercial ewes in early January, 800 mature stud ewes and 300 two-year-old commercial ewes in late January, followed by 780 ewe lambs on 20 March. The season has carried through into pregnancy scanning, producing some really pleasing results across both the commercial and stud flocks.

2026 Mature Ewe Pregnancy Scan Summary:

Pregnancy Result	Head	%
• Dry	43	1.7
• Singles	452	18
• Twins	1,830	73
• Triplets	184	7.3
• Overall	2,509	186

AI tagging stud lambs



FERTILITY. GROWTH. RESILIENCE.
OAKLEA GENETICS
EST. 1982

Oaklea Farm Update continued....

Having no supplementary feeding in our breeding program means we rely heavily on the ewe's ability to efficiently convert the feed available. After more than 40 years of selecting sheep under consistent commercial conditions, they continue to demonstrate the robustness, fertility and efficiency we strive to breed.
Whilst the favourable season certainly played its part, we were particularly pleased with the performance of our ewe lambs, especially those joined at lighter-than-ideal weights. Their pregnancy scan results are summarised below.

2026 Ewe Lamb Pregnancy Scan Summary

Joining Group	Joined	Dry (%)	Mate Wt (kg)	Scan Wt (kg)	Gain (kg)	Pregnancy Scan
Mature ewe	613	**8**	48.5	52.6	+4.1	**177%**
Ewe lamb	167	**20**	38.0	49.3	+11.3	**150%**
Young ewe lambs	74	**50**	33.4	44.7	+11.3	**91%**

(Mature Ewe -Out of a mature ewe, Ewe Lamb – out of a ewe Lamb Young – EL out of an EL)

We have recently completed lamb marking in our commercial flock and were thrilled with the result, marking 154% from joining. The late twin-bearing stud ewes have now almost finished lambing and we've tagged more than 1,400 lambs so far. Once again, a large proportion of the flock lambed during the first week. Whilst it makes for an incredibly busy period, it also allows us to complete lamb marking efficiently and move on to the next jobs around the farm. Perhaps even more pleasing has been hearing from a number of clients who are also reporting outstanding lambing and marking results this season. It is always rewarding to see the genetics performing well under commercial conditions, and we look forward to hearing more success stories as lamb marking continues across the region.
Our cattle trading enterprise has also continued to expand, with around 300 heifers and steers now being run alongside the sheep. They provide an excellent balance within the farming system, assisting with pasture management and adding another dimension to the business. They also do a great job of keeping me on my toes by busting fences and messing with exposed water points. Thankfully, it seems to suit Donny just fine, giving him plenty of excuses to head to the sale yards for a free brekky!

Alex Lyon

Oscar, Digby & Molly 'helping' with sheepwork

Pet lambs keeping Lyon kids busy

Combined Lambplan is now HERE

A new era in Australian sheep breeding has been entered with the release of combined Lambplan. Recent technical, computing and genomic developments have allowed the combining of the national terminal and maternal databases comprising 4 million animals with records.

Across the past year research breeding values covering all traits were presented to industry for comment and acceptance. Breeders had the opportunity to see how they lined up with the previous terminal and maternal EBVs. Generally, this has gone well.

In early August 2026 indexes for Terminal and Maternal became available.
When applied to the new larger data set we see a small decrease in index and breeding values and ask user to RECALIBRATE their heads. This occurs due to changed parameters and an adjusted base. Correlations with previous EBVs are high and accuracy is improved.

We will use the new Combined Breeding values at the ram sale this year.
Of note see below validation of our 35 years of efforts.

Combined Lambplan			
All 2025 drop males	75K records	MCP+ Index	Cashmore Oaklea 17 of top 20
All 2025 drop Shedding breed males	11K records	MCP+ Index	Cashmore Nudie 20 of top 20
All 2025 drop males	75K records	FEC, low parasites	Cashmore Oaklea 15 of top 20
All 2025 drop males	75K records	Weaning Rate	Cashmore Oaklea 18 of top 20

We ask clients to contact us for further clarification.

Thank you to all who have helped us on the journey.

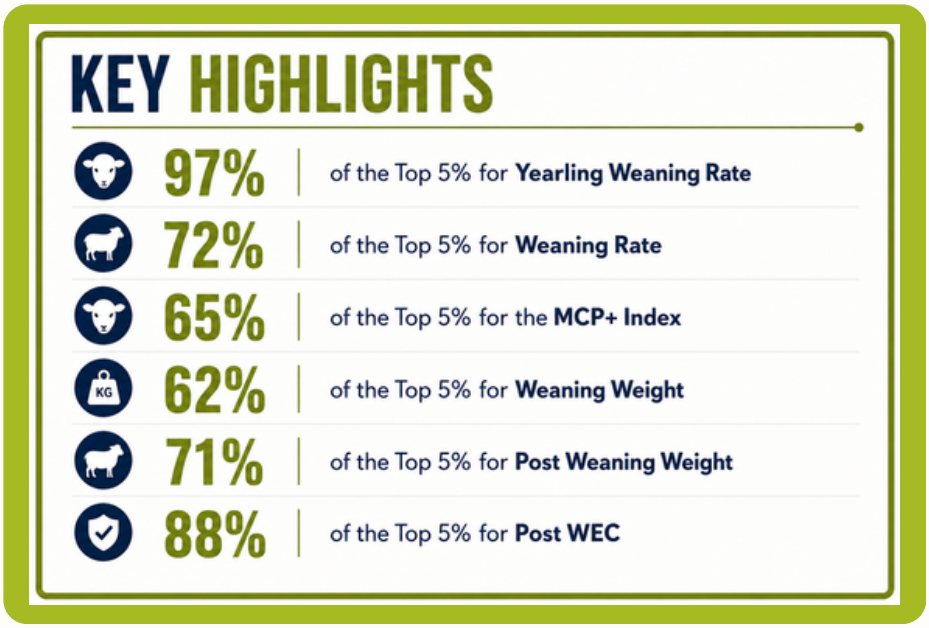
Regards John and Don

How do our Rams compare???

One of the most valuable features of Sheep Genetics is the ability to benchmark our breeding program against other leading maternal studs across Australia.
The table below compares six of the country's largest Maternal Composite breeders and shows the number of 2025-drop rams ranked within the top 5% nationally for a range of key Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs). The final column highlights the percentage of those elite rams that were bred by Cashmore Oaklea.
While no single ASBV tells the whole story, these results provide an independent measure of where our breeding program sits nationally. They also reinforce our long-term breeding objective of producing balanced, commercially relevant sheep that combine fertility, growth, carcase performance and overall profitability.
Results are based on Sheep Genetics data as at 1 June 2026.

NUMBER OF 2025 DROP RAMS IN TOP 5% FOR EACH TRAIT 1st June 2026								
STUD	Cashmore Oaklea	Other Stud	Other Stud	Other Stud	Other Stud	Other Stud	TOTAL	%CO
No RAMS BRED	2337	1648	1106	1036	555	469	7151	33
INDEX MCP+	595	31	290	0	0	0	916	65
WEANING RATE	597	172	54	2	4	0	829	72
YEARLING WEANING RATE	607	0	16	0	0	0	623	97
WEANING WEIGHT	489	52	243	5	0	0	789	62
POST WEAN WEIGHT	633	11	236	4	5	0	889	71
POST EYE MUSCLE	487	4	129	42	50	17	729	67
POST FAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
POST WEC	207	6	22	0	0	0	235	88
IMF	1	87	11	0	0	0	99	1

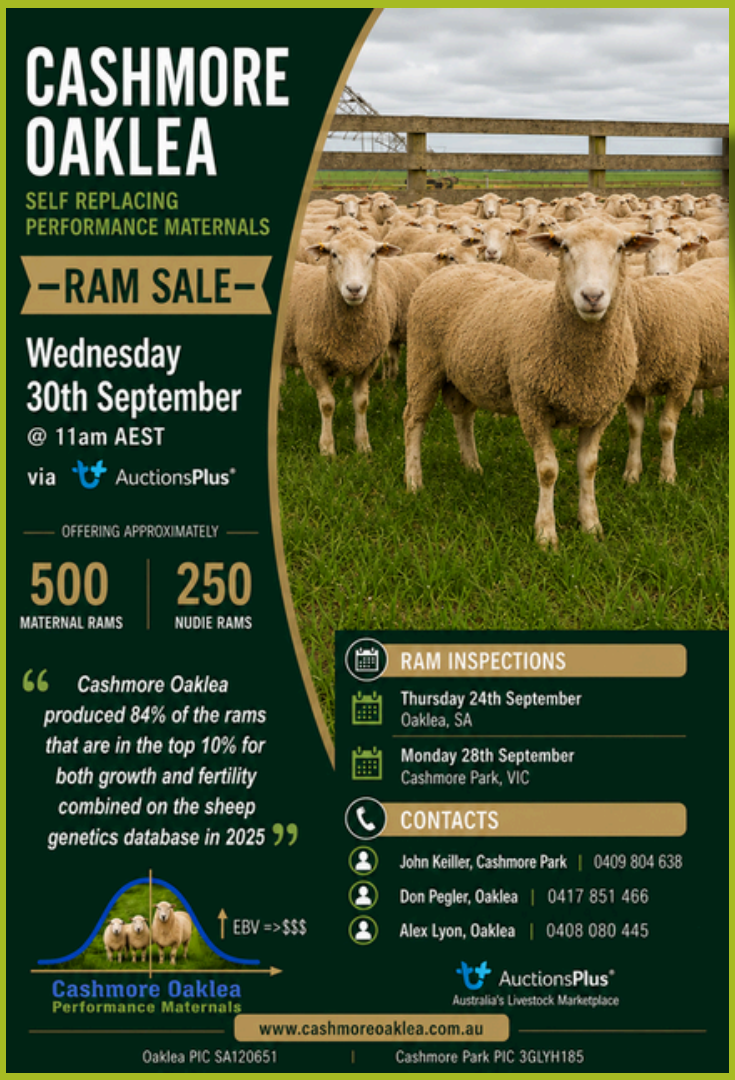
The results were particularly pleasing for the traits that have been the major focus of our breeding program over many years. Fertility remains the cornerstone of our selection decisions, reflected by our strong representation among the top 5% nationally for Weaning Rate, Yearling Weaning Rate and the MCP+ Index. Combined with our performance for Weaning Weight and Post Weaning Weight, these results demonstrate our continued commitment to breeding balanced sheep that deliver greater productivity and profitability for commercial producers.



Sales Information

Cashmore Oaklea's 2026 Annual Ram Sale will be held on Wednesday 30 September, exclusively via AuctionsPlus. The sale will feature more than 500 elite maternal composite rams alongside up to 250 Nudie rams and 35 terminal rams, offered across three separate sales.

The stud will also conduct two highly anticipated Ewe Sales via AuctionsPlus on Thursday 5 November and Thursday 3 December. Conducted as multi-vendor, multi-agent sales, buyers will have access to Cashmore Oaklea ewes ranging from ewe lambs through to mature five-year-old breeders, providing an excellent opportunity for both new and existing clients to establish or expand high-performing self-replacing flocks.



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