

# meatup FORUM

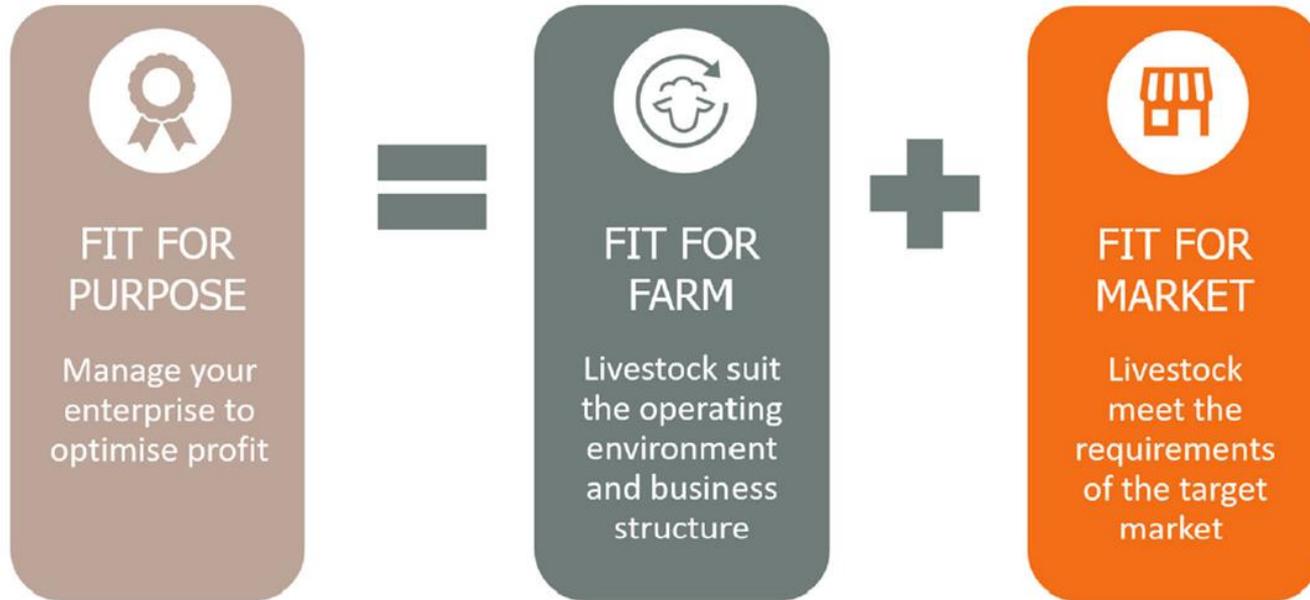
For the latest in red meat R&D

# BredWell FedWell – breeding and feeding to maximise profit

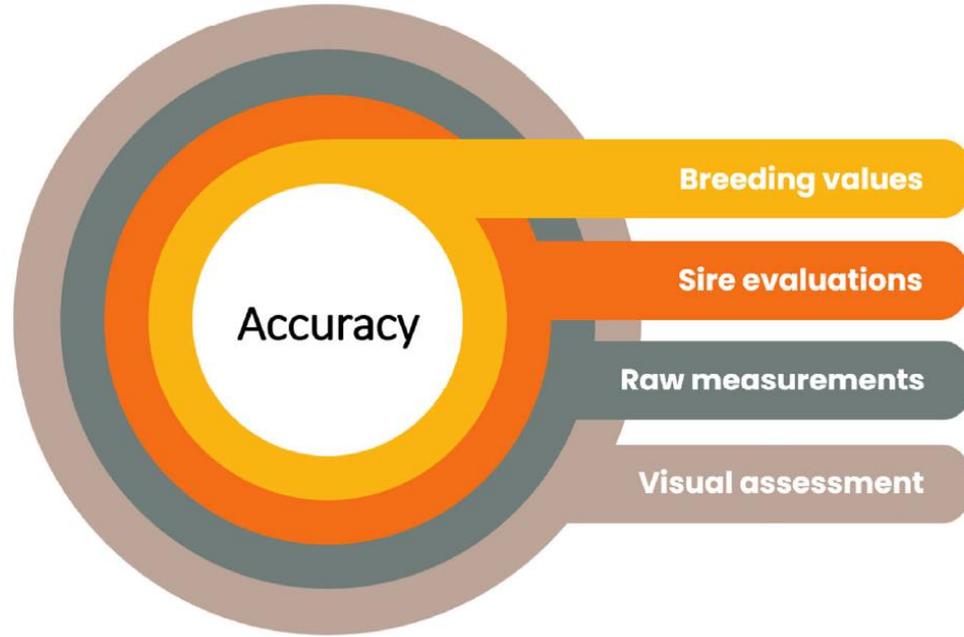
Dr Sarita Guy

MLA, Project Manager - Genetics Adoption

# What are our objectives?



# Breeding well



# What a breeding values?



An estimate of the genetic merit of an animal, and an indication how the progeny will perform



Uses information on relatives, relationships between traits, and non-genetic factors

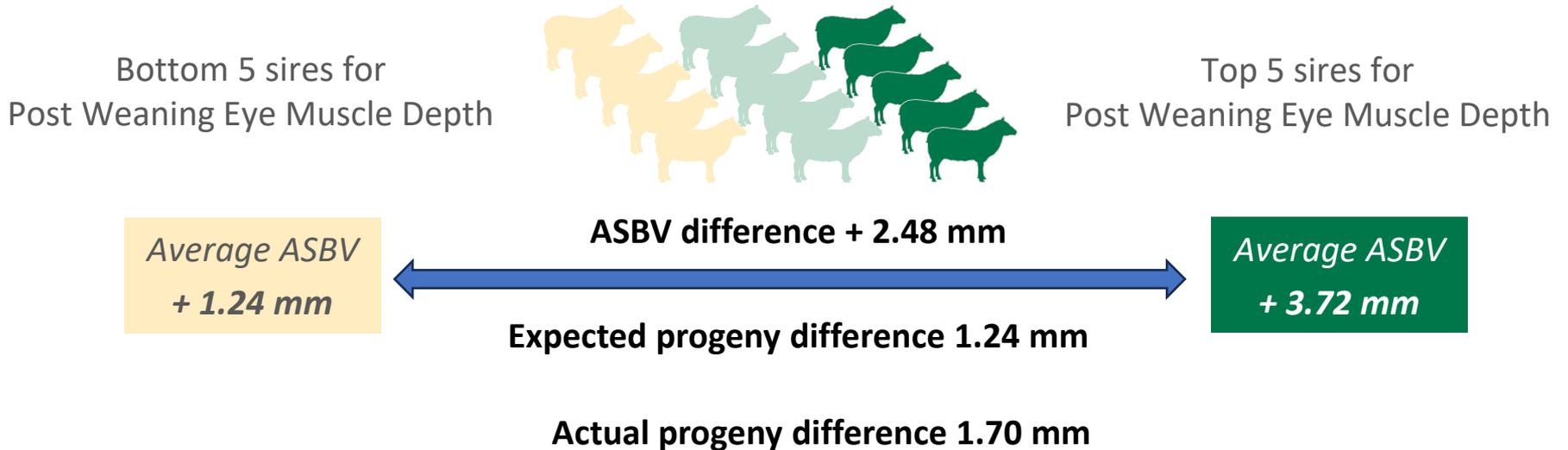


Go hand-on-hand with visual assessment and improve your selection accuracy

# Do breeding values work?

- 15 sires, 295 commercial Merino ewes
- On-farm traits: weight, muscle and fat depth
- Carcase traits: intramuscular fat and shear force

Australian White Suffolk Association  
Satellite flock



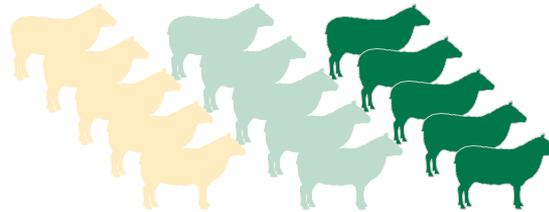
# Do breeding values work?

Australian White Suffolk Association  
Satellite flock



- 15 sires, 295 commercial Merino ewes
- On-farm traits: weight, muscle and fat depth
- Carcase traits: intramuscular fat and shear force

Bottom 5 sires



Top 5 sires

	Postweaning eye muscle depth	Intramuscular fat	Shear Force
Expected	1.24 mm	0.27%	-1.91
Actual	1.70 mm	0.15%	-1.87

# Do breeding values work?

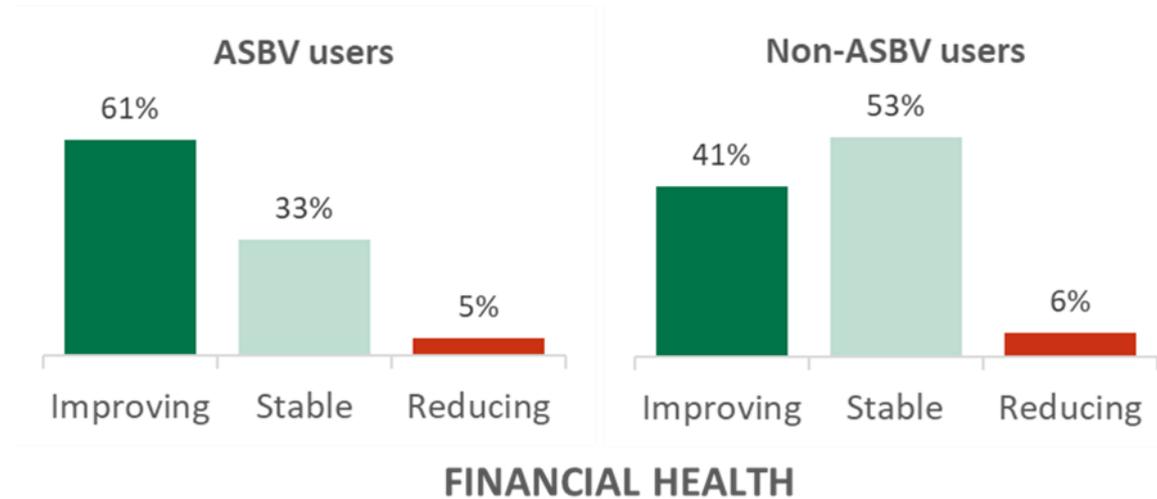


## Differences between top 10 vs. bottom 10 sires

	Birth weight	200 day weight	400 day weight	600 day weight	Carcase weight	Carcase EMA	Carcase IMF
<b>Expected</b>	1.9 kg	8.7 kg	14.6 kg	21.1 kg	15.4 kg	3.3 cm <sup>2</sup>	1.3 %
<b>Actual</b>	1.5kg	8.6 kg	14.2 kg	19.9 kg	13.4 kg	2.6 cm <sup>2</sup>	1.5 %

# Genetic tools open the gate to financial gains

- Genetics Insights survey
- 585 sheep producers
- ASBV users more likely to say their financial health is improving



# It's not all about genetics...

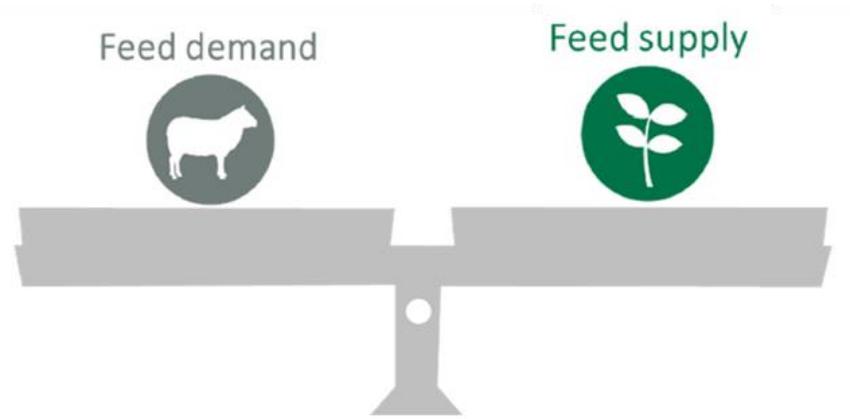
$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{E}$$

Phenotype  
(performance)

Genes

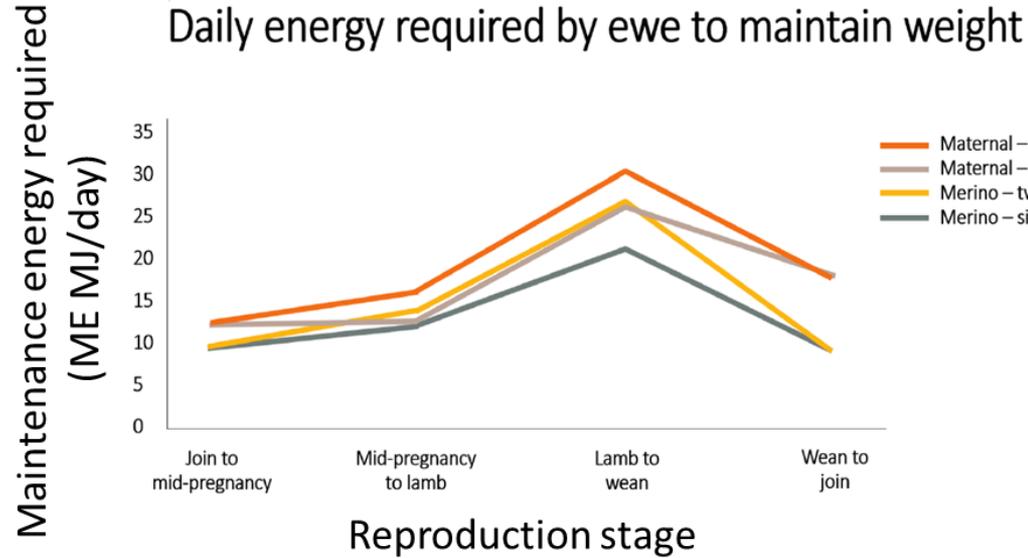
Environment  
(non-genetic factors)

# Feeding well



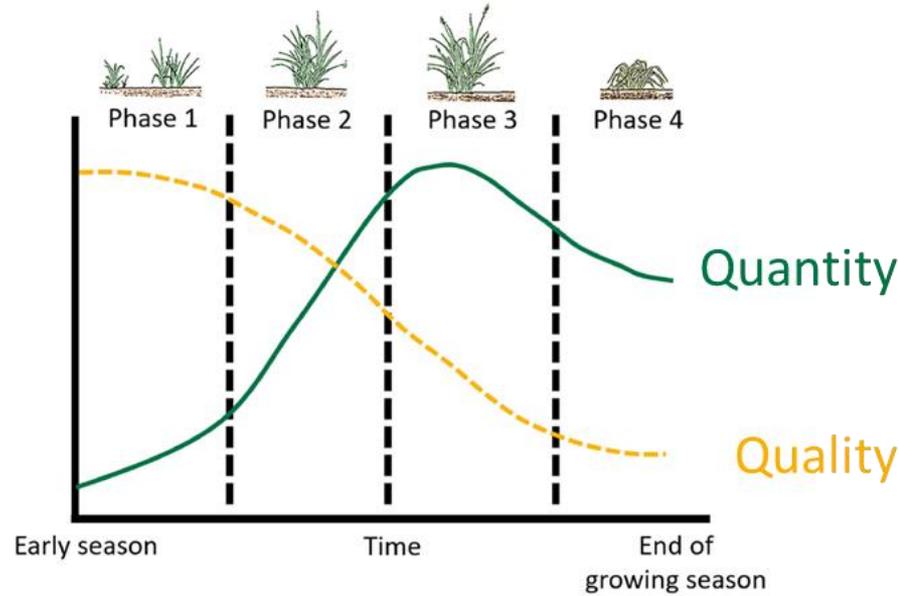
# Feeding well

Feed demand



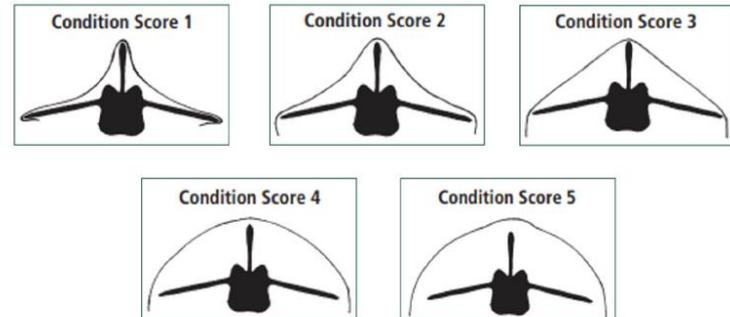
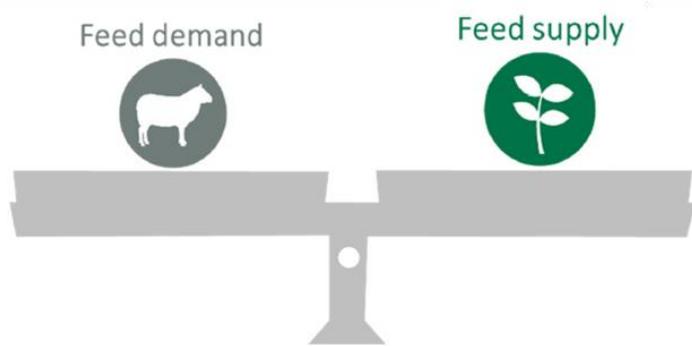
# Feeding well

Feed supply



(Crude protein, ME, P, C, macronutrients, trace elements, fibre)

# Feeding well



Source: Condition scoring of sheep brochure (Lifetime Wool/MLA)



# BredWell FedWell

An introduction to  
Breeding and feeding  
to maximise profit



[www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell](http://www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell)

# On the back of a decade of success



# What will you learn?



Develop a customised breeding plan aligned to profit drivers



Identify sires and select animals that help achieve objectives



Understand the fundamentals of feeding animals well to achieve objectives

# BredWell FedWell workshops



## Informative

Presentations and discussions  
with deliverers and peers



## Interactive

Practical and written activities  
hosted on-farm



## Individualised

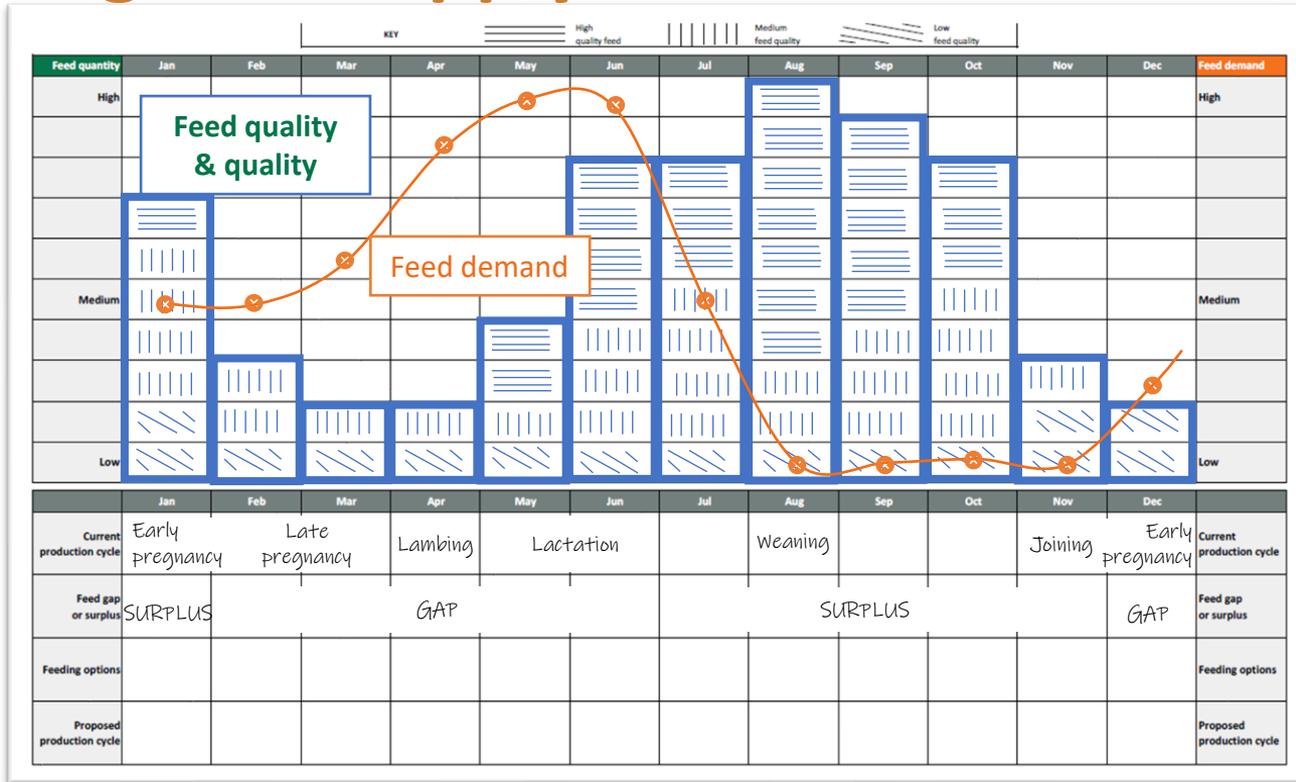
Learning outcomes you can apply  
in your own enterprise



# I want to...

Wedge	Trait groups	Production				BredWell						
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	I	J	H	L
		Goal	Current performance	Desired change	Difference	Selection trait	Include	ASBV	Current ASBV position	ASBV target	Priority	Timeframe
Pre-joining & joining	Reproduction	Increase lamb survival	100%	150%	50% +	Conception	Yes / No / Maybe	CON	0.05		NA/Low/Med/High	5 years
							Yes / No / Maybe				NA/Low/Med/High	
							Yes / No / Maybe				NA/Low/Med/High	
Weaning & beyond	Growth	Increase turn-off weights	22.5kg	23.5kg	1kg +	weaning wt	Yes / No / Maybe	WWT	9.56	10.51	NA/Low/Med/High	5 years
	Carcass						Yes / No / Maybe				NA/Low/Med/High	
	Eating quality						Yes / No / Maybe				NA/Low/Med/High	
	Wool	Increase amount of wool produced	4.5kg	4.7kg	.2kg	Greasy fw	Yes / No / Maybe	GFW	14.06	24.23	NA/Low/Med/High	10 years
	Health and labour saving	Reduce worms				Lower worms	Yes / No / Maybe	WEC	-30.50	-53.13	NA/Low/Med/High	5 years

# Assessing feed supply and demand



# Upcoming BredWell FedWell workshops

- Based on demand
- Register your interest at [www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell](http://www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell)



# Take home messages

- **Breed well in alignment with fit for purpose**  
Genetic tools are available.
- **Feed well to maximise genetic investment**  
Understand and match feed supply and demand.
- **MLA's refreshed BredWell FedWell workshop provides support**  
**Attend** a sheep or beef workshop  
**Host** a workshop on your property



**BredWell  
FedWell**

An introduction to  
**Breeding and feeding**  
to maximise profit



[www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell](http://www.mla.com.au/bredwellfedwell)

# Tools and resources

## MLA Genetics Hub



[genetics.mla.com.au](https://genetics.mla.com.au)

## MLA Feedbase Hub



### Feed Calculators

**Australian Feedbase Monitor**  
A world-first tool helping producers to improve grazing management, forage budgeting and ground cover.

[Access the Australian Feedbase Monitor](#)

**Stocking rate calculator**  
Determine a paddock's carrying capacity for either cattle or sheep.

[Access the Stocking rate calculator](#)

### Pasture Tools and Calculators

**Feedbase planning and budgeting tool**  
This tool is designed to help you to plan your rotational grazing systems, determine pasture growth rates, determine how long your paddocks will last and calculate t

[Access the Feedbase planning and budgeting tool](#)

**Pasture Improvement Calculator**  
The costs and benefits of re-sowing pastures to livestock, soils and the environm

[www.mla.com.au/feedbase-hub](https://www.mla.com.au/feedbase-hub)

# Tools and resources

## Lifetime Ewe Management



[www.rist.edu.au](http://www.rist.edu.au)

## Profitable Grazing Systems



Pasture Principles  
PayDirt  
Lifting Lamb Survival

[www.mla.com.au/pgs](http://www.mla.com.au/pgs)