



Prime Lamb Carcase Competition

2005 Catalogue of Results

Proudly presented by



RAS



2005

Prime Lamb Carcase Competition

Proudly presented by The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited

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Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)

The Weekly Times



INTRODUCTION

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RAS) is delighted to present the results of the 2005 Prime Lamb Carcase Competition.

The 2005 Competition attracted 46 entries comprising almost 16,000 lambs, with entries received from Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. Lambs had an average kilogram of Carcase Weight was relatively low. Carcase Weight of 23.8 kg and 54.8 % Lean Meat Yield. An average of \$2.12 total premium was paid per carcase entered.

Established by the RAS in 2002, the Prime Lamb Carcase Competition replaced the Royal Melbourne Show's 'Pen-of-Three Competition' and is a more accurate reflection of industry standards.

The Competition seeks to promote the production of prime lambs that meet export market specifications, especially heavy carcasses that exhibit high Lean Meat Yield. In addition, the Competition aims to provide producers with opportunities to benchmark their flock against fellow producers as well as providing comparisons with industry standards.

Entries in the Competition are assessed using VIAscan carcase assessment technology. VIAscan was developed by MLA and is currently owned and further developed by SASTEK. The Video Image Analysis technology uses colour images to electronically assess the Lean Meat Yield of individual carcasses at normal chain speeds.

The RAS is extremely grateful for the strong support provided by Castricum Brothers with their services and continued commitment to the Competition. Thanks are also extended to Meat and Livestock Australia and The Weekly Times for their continued support.

Congratulations to the winners in the 2005 RAS Prime Lamb Carcase Competition. We wish them continuing success in the future.

We are certain that this program will continue to provide producers with an opportunity to assess their flock and encourage production systems which ensure the growth of the industry.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark O'Sullivan'.

Mark O'Sullivan

Chief Executive Officer

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited

Entry in the RAS Prime Lamb Carcase Competition requires a consignment of 200 or more first or second cross lambs with an average carcase weight of 20-30 kg to be processed at the Castricum Brothers abattoir in Dandenong. Consignments are assessed using the electronic carcase evaluation system, VIAscan (Figures 1.1 and 1.2).

VIAscan assesses carcases for Lean Meat Yield based on Carcase Weight, loin content and estimated fat depth and distribution using Video Image Analysis.

Images produced by VIAscan allow a more equitable evaluation of carcases than if value was based entirely on weight alone. This assures that producers growing higher yielding lambs are rewarded more than producers who offer fatter, lower yielding lambs of the same weight.

Par value is used to cost carcases and issued on a per kg basis. Using a grid system which incorporates Carcase Weight, Lean Meat Yield (%) and adjustments for above average Meat Yield scores, carcases are either determined to be discount, at par value or premium. Discounts and premiums are kept constant and issued plus or minus \$0.20/kg based on par value. For instance, if par value is \$3.46/kg and a carcase is deemed to warrant premium from the grid system, the carcase will be valued at \$3.66/kg. Par value is not a fixed price and can vary depending on the time of year or season.

After all carcases in a consignment have been categorised as discount, par value or premium the average price per carcase is determined. This average price per carcase is then compared with the standard 'Over the Hooks' payment and is referred to as the 'Over the Hooks Comparison'. The difference between these two values is the total premium return per carcase.

The consignment with the highest premium return per carcase over the standard 'Over the Hooks' quote is designated the winner of the RAS Prime Lamb Carcase Competition.



Figure 1.1 Carcase assessment by VIAscan

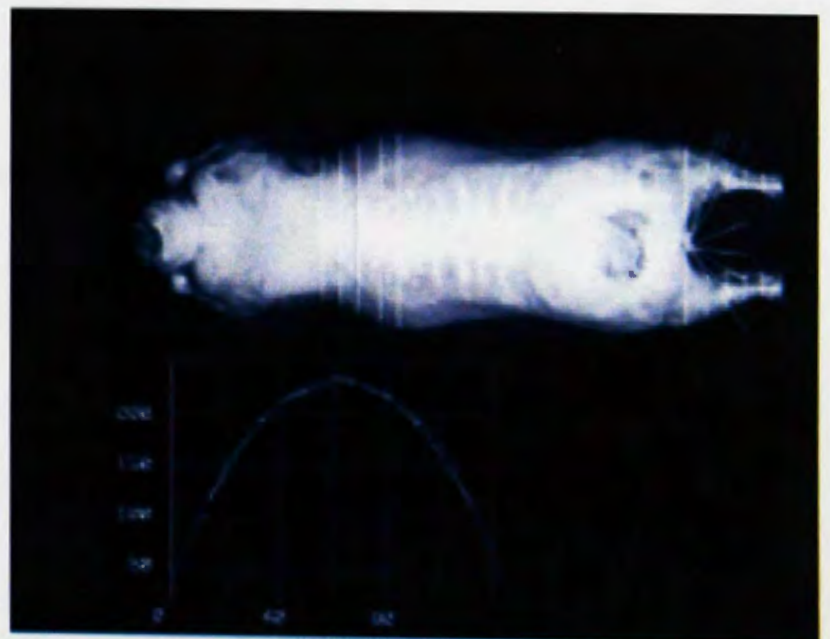


Figure 1.2 VIAscan image of a carcase

2005 AWARD WINNERS

FIRST PLACE

Colin Gellie

DERRINALLUM, VIC

Bond Corr/East Friesian Ewe by Texel/ East Friesian Ram

Average Carcase Weight (kg): 22.9

Average Lean Meat Yield (%): 56.2

\$3.58 Total Premium per Carcase

SECOND PLACE

Roger Mason

WOODSTOCK, VIC

Texel x Texel/Merino

Average Carcase Weight (kg): 26.0

Average Lean Meat Yield (%): 55.4

\$3.52 Total Premium per Carcase

THIRD PLACE

DG and AW Pevitt

WARRONG, VIC

Texel Cross

Average Carcase Weight (kg): 26.1

Average Lean Meat Yield (%): 54.9

\$ 3.42 Total Premium per Carcase

TABLE 1: Summary of Prime Lamb Carcase Entries

Entrant ID	Breed Type	QTY	Date Processed	Carcase Weight (kg)	Lean Meat Yield		Premium (c/kg)	Premium per Carcase (\$)
					kg	%		
1	Bond Corr/East Friesian Ewe by Texel/ East Friesian Rams	345	25-Jan-05	22.9	12.9	56.2	16.0	3.58
2	Texel x Texel/Merino	383	08-Jul-05	26.0	14.4	55.4	14.0	3.52
3	Texel Cross	307	23-May-05	26.1	14.3	54.9	13.0	3.42
4	Merino/Border Leicester Dam/Dorset Terminal Sire	251	16-Jun-05	22.6	12.6	55.8	14.0	3.14
5	Texel/Border Leicester/Merino Cross	217	30-Nov-05	22.0	12.5	56.6	14.0	3.04
6	Second Cross White Suffolk/Dorset	400	23-Sep-05	21.8	12.2	56.1	13.0	2.92
7	Texel/East Friesian/Coopworth	396	21-Jun-05	28.9	15.7	54.4	10.0	2.85
8	Texel Ram/Border Leicester Merino Ewe	411	10-Nov-05	22.5	12.5	55.6	12.0	2.79
9	Cross Bred	383	25-Aug-05	22.4	12.5	55.8	12.0	2.73
10	Dorset Merino Cross	230	23-May-05	27.7	14.8	53.5	9.0	2.55
11	Merino x White Suffolk	200	24-Jan-05	22.5	12.4	55.2	11.0	2.53
12	Cross Bred	386	16-Aug-05	22.3	12.3	55.5	11.0	2.51
13	White Suffolk x First Cross Ewe	253	09-Dec-05	23.2	12.8	55.2	11.0	2.46
14	Texel over Texel/Merino	210	15-Mar-05	25.2	13.7	54.4	10.0	2.42
15	Not Provided	284	18-Jul-05	22.3	12.3	55.2	11.0	2.42
16	Second x Dorset	210	20-Oct-05	22.5	12.4	55.1	10.0	2.22
17	Merino x South Suffolk	245	01-Sep-05	26.5	14.2	53.5	8.0	2.19
18	Second Cross	250	07-Jun-05	27.2	14.4	53.1	8.0	2.15
19	Dorset/Merino Cross	200	26-Aug-05	21.0	11.8	56.4	10.0	2.13
20	Lot Cross Ewe x Poll Dorset	439	01-Nov-05	22.2	12.3	55.3	9.0	2.11
21	Cross Bred Lambs	397	06-Sep-05	20.6	11.7	57.0	10.0	2.09
22	Merino/White Suffolk	570	08-Aug-05	24.6	13.4	54.5	8.0	2.04
23	Texel over Texel x Merino	201	15-Mar-05	24.2	13.1	54.3	8.0	2.01
24	Merino Dorset	352	19-Jul-05	20.5	11.5	56.4	10.0	1.98
25	White Suffolk BL / East Friesian Merino	264	24-Mar-05	26.6	14.3	53.7	7.0	1.94
26	Merino Cross	208	22-Aug-05	20.4	11.5	56.7	9.0	1.92
27	Dohne x Merino	202	16-Sep-05	23.9	12.9	54.0	8.0	1.91
28	Merino Cross	424	28-Jun-05	21.3	11.8	55.5	9.0	1.81
29	Merino x Dorset/Suffolk	210	16-Aug-05	24.2	13.1	54.2	7.0	1.74
30	White Suffolk/Merino x Poll Dorset/Merino x	284	22-Feb-05	27.2	14.4	53.1	6.0	1.72
31	Second Cross	743	07-Mar-05	24.7	13.3	53.8	7.0	1.65
32	Merino Dorset	379	14-Jun-05	22.5	12.4	54.9	7.0	1.65
33	Texel East Friesian Cross	224	07-Jan-05	25.4	13.6	53.8	6.0	1.64
34	Dorset/ White Suffolk/ East Friesian x	496	04-Jan-05	23.9	12.9	54.2	7.0	1.62
35	2nd x Lambs BL x Merino Dams x Poll Dorset	355	18-Jul-05	24.0	13.0	54.1	7.0	1.59
36	White Suffolk x Merino	443	16-Jun-05	25.1	13.5	53.7	6.0	1.58
37	Border Leicester x Comeback x Dorset or White Suffolk	209	14-Jul-05	22.4	12.3	54.9	6.0	1.46
38	Second Cross	281	13-May-05	23.9	12.9	54.1	6.0	1.44
39	Merino/East Friesian x White Suffolk	392	29-Jan-05	26.4	14.1	53.3	5.0	1.43
40	White Suffolk x (East Friesian, Border Leicester, Merino x) Dam	888	23-Mar-05	24.3	13.1	53.8	6.0	1.42
41	Dohne Merino	343	05-May-05	24.1	13.0	54.0	6.0	1.35
42	Merino Border Leicester x Dorset	411	12-Dec-05	20.6	11.5	55.9	6.0	1.34
43	Texel Sire x Finn/Texel/Friesian Dams	589	28-Feb-05	23.6	12.8	54.1	5.0	1.16
44	Texel Sire x Finn/Texel/Friesian Dams	462	08-Aug-05	23.5	12.8	54.4	5.0	1.15
Average		348	NA	23.8	13.0	54.8	8.9	2.12

RESULTS

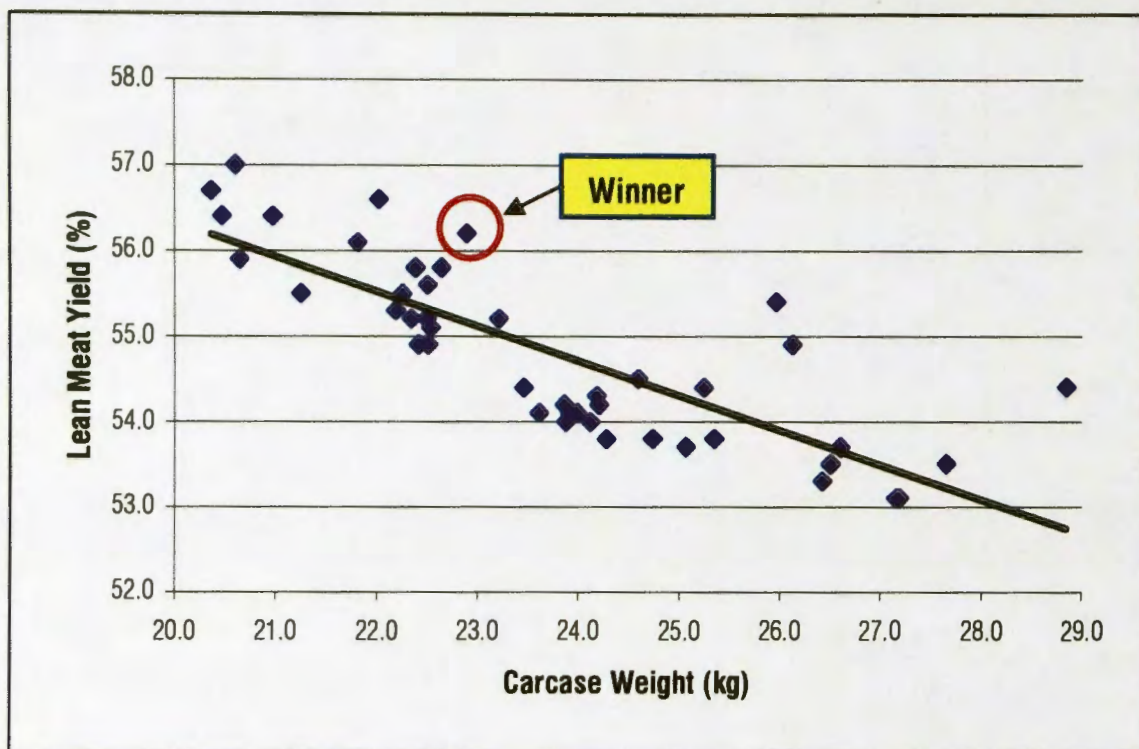


Figure 2.1 Relationship between Carcase Weight (kg) and Lean Meat Yield (%)

The strong correlation ($R^2=0.65$) between Carcase Weight and Lean Meat Yield (%) is clearly evident. As Carcase Weight increases, the percent of Lean Meat Yield decreases, due to the fact that carcasses generally become fatter with increased weight.

The winning consignment attained the highest Lean Meat Yield percentage relative to its Carcase Weight and was therefore rewarded with the highest average premium (c/kg) as outlined in Figure 2.2.

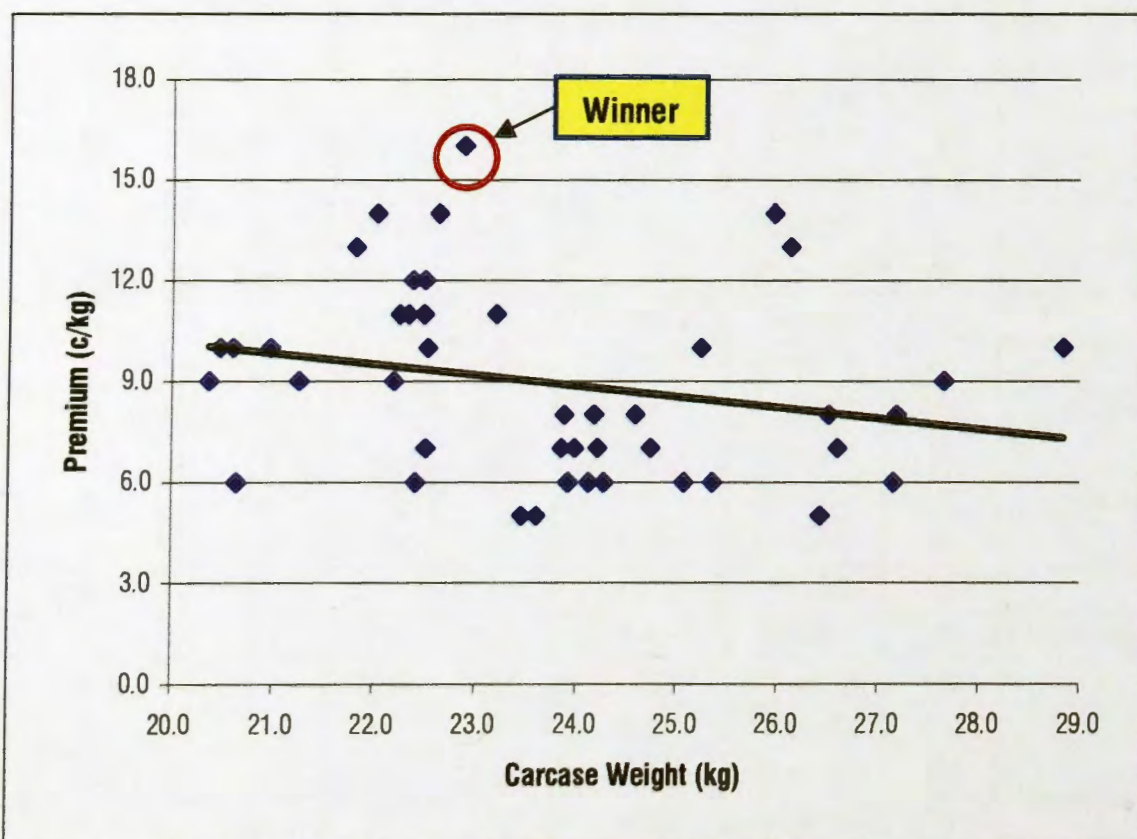


Figure 2.2 Relationship between Carcase Weight (kg) and Premium (c/kg)

The trend is for premium (c/kg) to decrease as Carcase Weight increases ($R^2=0.05$). Generally, the higher the Carcase Weight, the fatter the lambs, which reduces their value on a c/kg basis, as fat has to be trimmed - resulting in discounts from par value.

The slope of the trend line is not very steep as many consignments in the Competition were of a high standard, maintaining good Lean Meat Yield at heavier Carcase Weights.

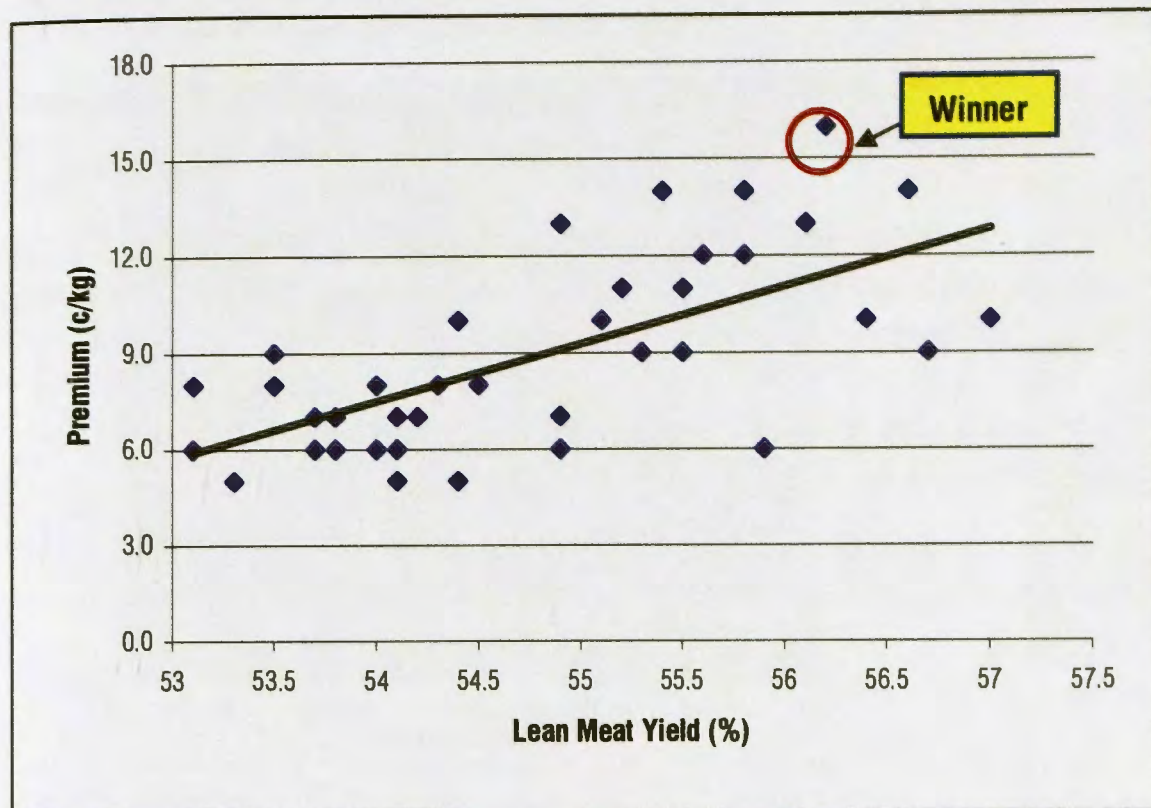


Figure 2.3 Relationship between Lean Meat Yield (%) and Premium (c/kg)

Lean Meat Yield (%) shows a good relationship with higher premiums ($R^2=0.44$). Consequently, high-yielding carcasses are financially rewarded per unit of Carcase Weight.

A large proportion of the winning consignment consisted of premium lambs due to their high Lean Meat Yield (%) and as a result, the consignment achieved the highest average premium (c/kg).

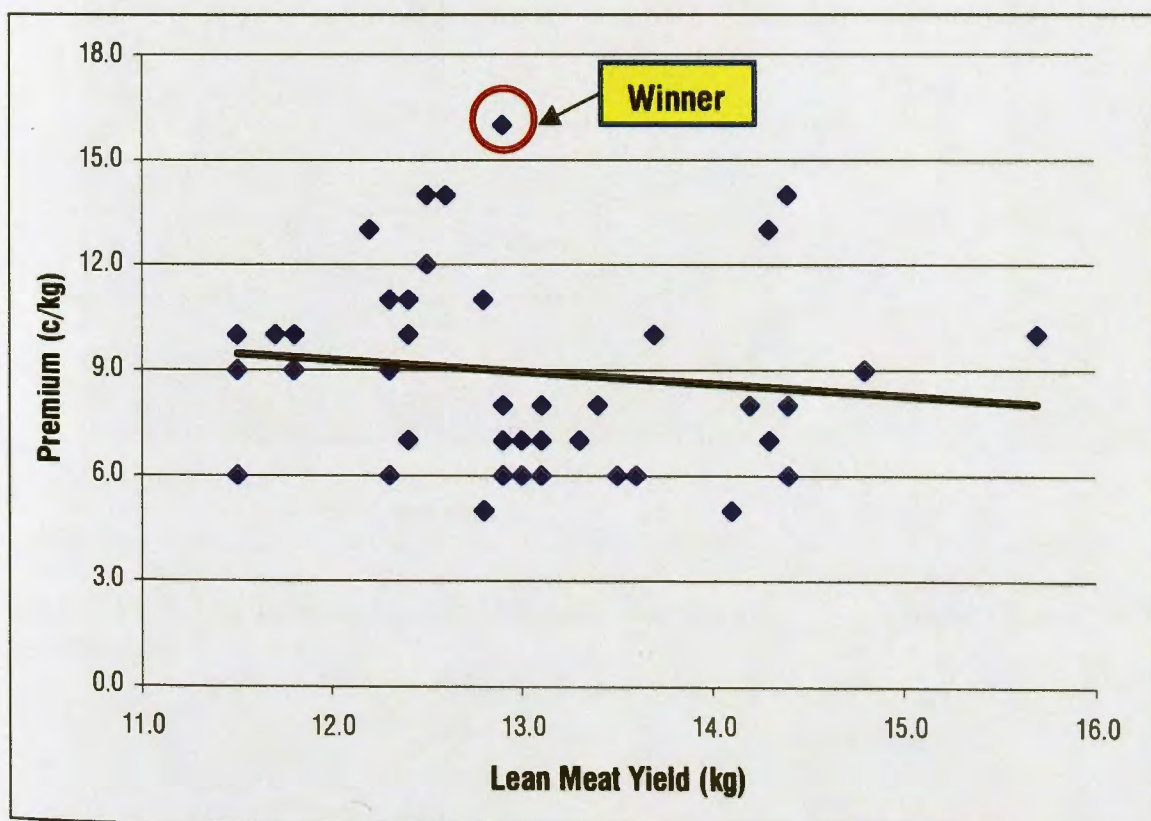


Figure 2.4 Relationship between Lean Meat Yield (kg) and Premium (c/kg)

The winning consignment received a premium of 16 c/kg and a Lean Meat Yield of 12.9 kg. It bettered the c/kg premiums received by other consignments with 12.9 kg Lean Meat Yield or more because this yield came from a relatively low 22.9 kg Carcase Weight. Therefore it achieved a higher Lean Meat Yield (%) compared to the kg of Lean Meat Yield from a heavier carcass.

Those consignments below the trend line attained a lower premium as the percentage of Lean Meat Yield per kilogram of Carcase Weight was relatively

CONCLUSIONS

The Competition's winning consignment achieved the highest Premium Value per Carcase, resulting from its combination of high Lean Meat Yield in relation to Carcase Weight.

This is the same way in which producers can be financially rewarded through the payment of premiums for commercial consignments of lambs that achieve high percentages of Lean Meat Yield from heavy Carcase Weights.

By requiring entry of a large quantity of lambs, the rigour and commercial relevance of the Prime Lamb Carcase Competition is maintained. Large sample sizes are necessary to gain a true and accurate measure of the characteristics of a flock, as influenced by the genetics and production systems utilised by the producer.

We look forward to the development of the Prime Lamb Carcase Competition and encourage producers to utilise production systems which lead to financial rewards through the delivery of heavy, high yielding lambs.

COMPARATIVE RESULTS FROM 2004

Results of the **2004 Competition** are presented in Figures 3.1 to 3.4.

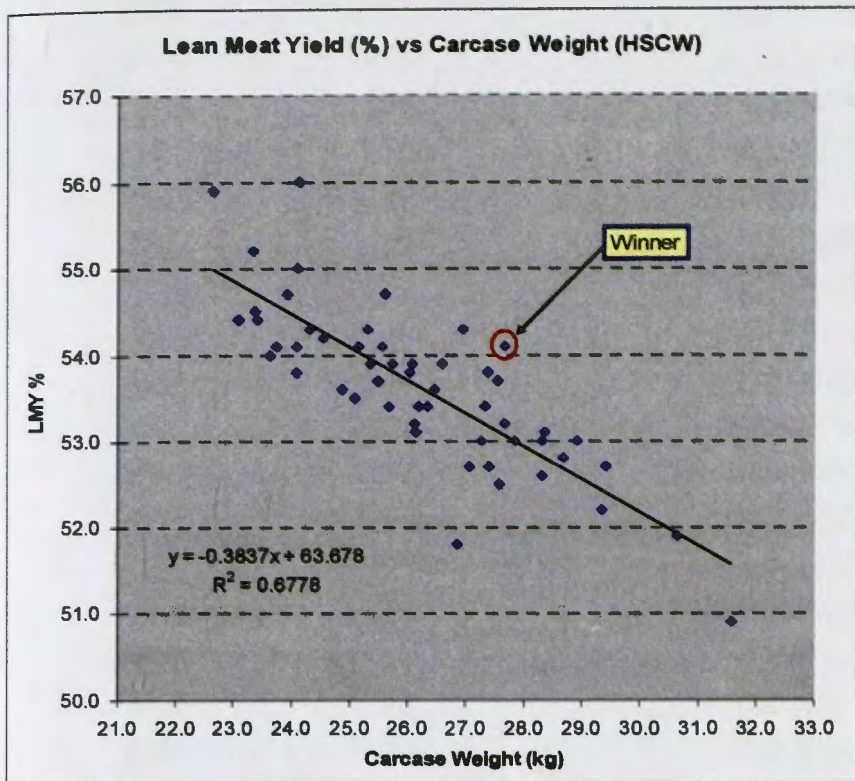


Figure 3.1 – The Relationship between Carcase Weight (kg) and Lean Meat Yield (%).

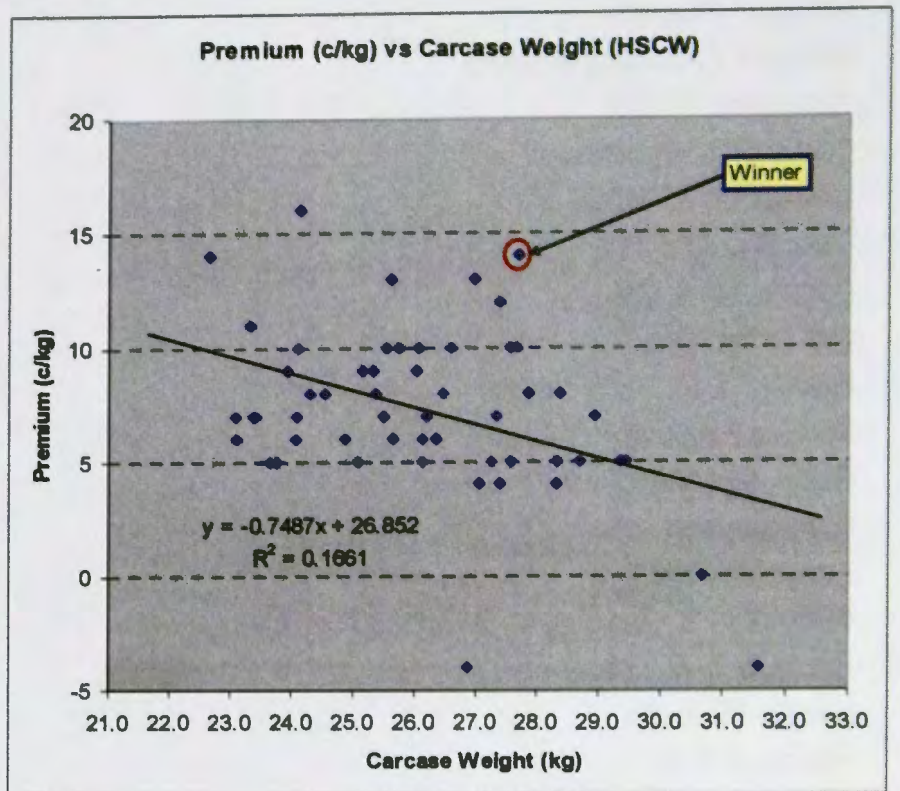


Figure 3.2 – The Relationship between Carcase Weight (kg) and Premium (c/kg).

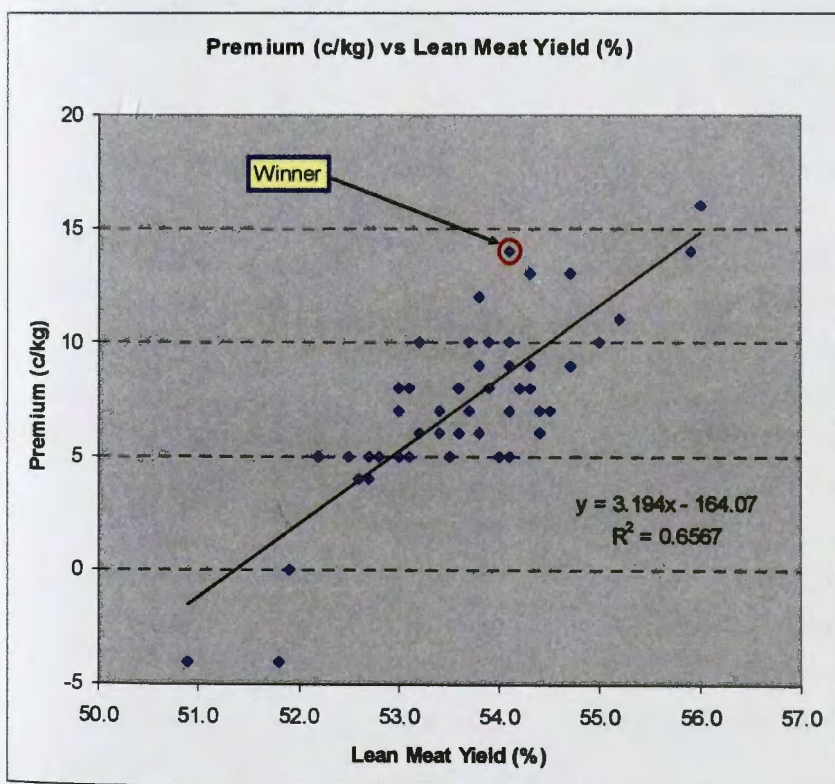


Figure 3.3 – The Relationship between Lean Meat Yield (%) and Premium (c/kg).

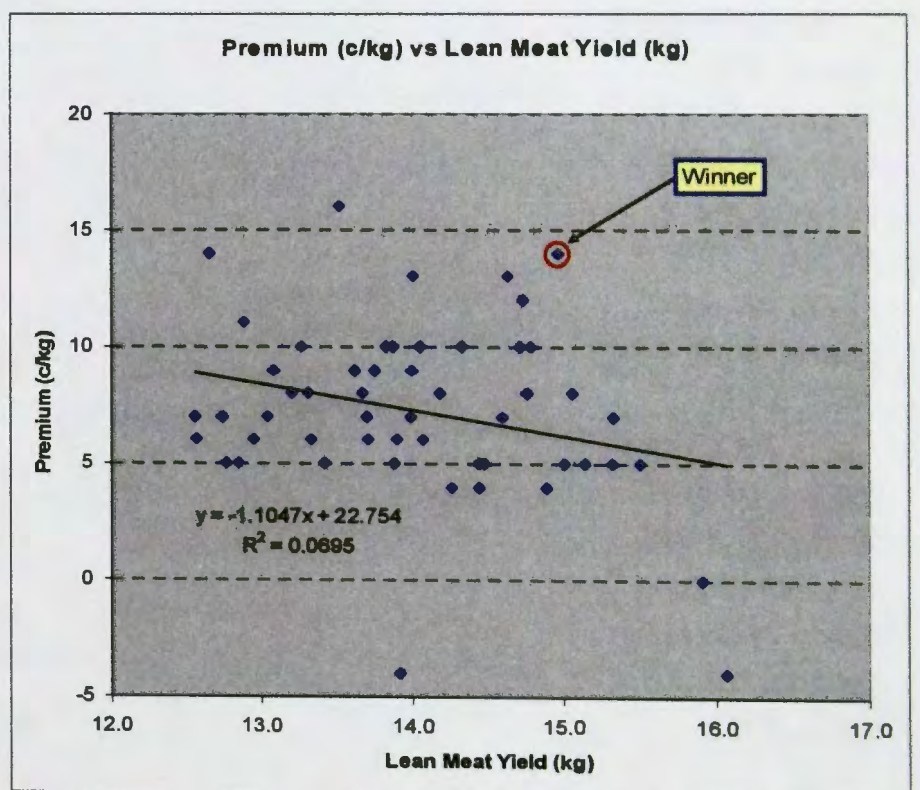


Figure 3.4 – The Effect of Lean Meat Yield (kg) on Premium (c/kg).

INDEX OF 2005 EXHIBITORS

Archer, B & K	WESTWOOD	TAS	7292
Birangan Pastoral	GRENFELL	NSW	2810
Canawar Pastoral Company	FINLEY	NSW	2713
Chambers, M & H	MARONG	VIC	3516
Coolalee Partnership	BUGALDIE	NSW	2357
Chambers, PF & HM	RUTHERGLEN	VIC	3685
Connelly, JJ & MB	BIRCHIP	VIC	3483
Demeo, DJ & OM	RAYWOOD	VIC	3570
DPI Rutherglen	RUTHERGLEN	VIC	3685
Elliott, J & W	BARFOLD	VIC	3444
Geddes Pastoral	HOLBROOK	NSW	2644
Gellie, GM & SL	DERRINALLUM	VIC	3325
Gleeson Bros	DENILQUIN	NSW	2710
Goudie & Green	BARHAM	NSW	2732
Guthridge, N - Trading as Darelono Pty Ltd	WARRNAMBOOL	VIC	3280
Hardy, R & A	NATHALIA	VIC	3638
Hendy, GF & MA	NUMURKAH	VIC	3636
Hoking, R & N	COBRAM	VIC	3645
Hocking, II & PE	LUCINDALE	SA	5272
Hodder Pastoral Company Pty Ltd	STAWELL	VIC	3380
Huggins, H - Trading as Savernake Pastoral Company	SAVERNAKE	NSW	2646
James, D J & S	BUNGEET	VIC	3726
Kielli Holdings	MORTLAKE	VIC	3272
Kingston, M	COROWA	NSW	2646
Lockwood Pastoral	COONABARABRAN	NSW	2357
Mason, R	WOODSTOCK	VIC	3751
Mitchell, KL & P	DEVENISH	VIC	3726
Muir, DW & RM	HEXHAM	VIC	3273
Norwood, F & E	STRATFORD	VIC	3862
O'Connor, TP & D	SWAN HILL	VIC	3585
Pevitt, AW & DG	WARRONG	VIC	3282
Flennie, W, M & BW	LONGWOOD	VIC	3665
Scott, J & K	HOLBROOK	NSW	2644
Sharp, J & C	BROKEN CREEK	VIC	3673
Stillard, CR & BS	BAROOGA	NSW	3644
Storey, JV & PJ	WYCHEPROOF	VIC	3527
Tchelery Pastoral Co	MOULAMEIN	NSW	2733
Uondo Pastoral Co	KERANG	VIC	3579
Velleley, D & J	BARRAPORT	VIC	3537
White, P & L	SIDONIA VIA KYNETON	VIC	3444

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