

## Merino Lifetime Productivity Project

### 2017 Sites Ewe Base and Entry Fees - (92 doses of semen required per entry)

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#### Entry Fees

<b>MerinoLink</b>	\$2,900 per entry, AWI funding will allow \$450 reimbursed = <b>\$2,450</b>
<b>Pingelly</b>	\$2,500 per entry, AWI funding will allow \$450 reimbursed = <b>\$2,050</b>
<b>New England</b>	\$2,500* per entry, AWI funding will allow \$450 reimbursed = <b>\$2,050</b>

\*Will be confirmed in September, 2016

#### Number of rams per site

<b>MerinoLink</b>	13 sires
<b>Pingelly</b>	15 sires
<b>New England</b>	15 sires

#### MERINOLINK – Temora, NSW

##### Southern NSW. Moderate winter (slightly) rainfall. 600mm

**AI date:** 1st week January, 2017  
(Semen will need to be delivered by the 10th December, 2016).

**Number of entries:** 13

**Mulesing status:** Progeny to be mulesed with pain relief

##### Ewe Base – 4 ewe sources

###### Bluechip Livestock bred ewes

The Bluechip ewes base goes back to Billandri and Nerstane. The 2011 and 2012 drop are progeny from 3 sire evaluations, and the 2013, 2014 and 2015 drop ewes are by selected sires and out of the ewes retained from the sire evaluations. All Bluechip ewes have full pedigree and have all been DNA sampled and measured for all AMSEA required traits in addition to older age traits. The Bluechip wool clip has averaged 17.4, 18.2 and 18.3 microns in 2015, 2014 and 2013.

###### Purchased in ewes

Additional ewes have been purchased by Bluechip Livestock specifically for the MLP project from Pooginook, Bundilla, Centre Plus and a commercial Pooginook client. The ewes selected are structurally sound, able to deal with high rainfall events (no fleece rot), between 3 and 5 years of age, have ASBVs (except for the commercial ewes), wool quality standards will not be compromised. Ewe merit (visual and objective) will be evenly distributed across sire groups.

#### Pingelly, WA

##### Wheatbelt WA. Low Winter Rainfall. 440mm

**AI date:** Late February, 2017

**Number of entries:** 15

**Mulesing status:** Not mulesing

##### Ewe Base – 2 ewe sources

**Commercial ewes - 1105 ewes (some to be classed out)**

Bloodline: Moojepin Multi Purpose Merinos  
 Wool cut: 5kg  
 Micron: 19.5um  
 Mature body weight: 60kg (this is an estimate)  
 Weaning %: ~100% (this is an estimate)

### Maternal Efficiency Project – 600 ewes (some to be classed out)

	FD	GFW			
Yearling	17.7	3.6			
Adult	18.4	5.0			
					2013-2015
Average weight of adult ewes at joining					61.3
Average weight of ewe lambs at joining					41.1
Average total kg weaned per adult ewe joined					26.9
Average total kg weaned per ewe lamb joined					7.5
Average weaning weight from adult ewes					24.5
Average weaning weight from ewe lambs					22.6
Average weaning % from adult ewes joined					110

### New England, NSW

#### New England Tablelands of NSW, High Summer Rainfall. 700-800mm

**AI date:** April, 2017  
**Number of entries:** 15  
**Mulesing status:** Not mulesing

The Chiswick resource flock (which would comprise approximately two-thirds of a MLP base ewe flock) is a typical commercial superfine/fine wool type, based on local performance recorded studs (most recently Cressbrook and Alfoxton sires, previously T13 and Westvale). The Breech Strike Genetics flock, which would potentially make up one-third of a MLP base ewe flock, comprises historical genetics from many sources, but for the last 5 years has been essentially a superfine/fine wool flock (bulk 70's quality count, adult ewe mean fibre diameter approx. 17microns), and is physically similar to the Chiswick Resource flock.

While this flock comprises varied genetics, it brings other advantages being that it is deeply pedigreed, comprehensively phenotyped and well linked genetically to industry via MerinoSelect.