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For third place they received \$1000 cash plus product donated by Superior Livestock Services.

In the over 300 lamb consignment category, Craig McAndrew, CP & SR McAndrew, Yelbeni, took out the first place honours with his 413 Poll Dorset-Merinos averaging 24.8kg for carcase weight, a 2.63 fat score and a total of 2307 points.

Second place went to Rob and Jamie Blight, RE Blight & Co, Beverley, with a line of 319 Poll Dorset-Merinos with an average carcase weight of 27.28kg, 2.91 fat score and 2248 total points, while in third place was Ross Taylor, RW & PM Taylor, Tiarrri Prime SAMP stud, Lake Grace, with a line of 340 Prime SAMMs which achieved an average carcase weight of 26.44kg,

2.92 fat score and 2235 total competition points.

First place in the trade weight category was Todd, Jodie and Mick Quinlivan, Quintarra Farms & Prime SAMP stud, Esperance, for their 107 Prime SAMP lambs, which recorded a 20.91kg average carcase weight, 2.08 fat score and 1824 total competition points.

In second place was Kevin and Sharlene Powell, KR & SK Powell, Katanning, with a line of 464 Prime SAMP-Merino lambs at an average carcase weight of 20.78kg, 2.07 fat score to achieve a total of 1801 points, while a line of 274 Prime SAMMs with a 20.83kg average carcase weight, 2.4 fat score and 1596 total competition points from Alan and Sandy Forbes, AW & SC Forbes, Royston Prime SAMP stud, Jerramungup, finished in third place.

TOP 10 > 300 CONSIGNMENT

Place	Trading Name	Location	Breeding	Points
1	CP & SR McAndrew	Yelbeni	Poll Dorset x Merino	2307
2	RE Blight & Co	Beverley	Poll Dorset x Merino	2248
3	RW & PM Taylor	Lake Grace	SAMP x F1 SAMP	2235
4	Tipperary Farming Ent	Walkaway	Poll Dorset x Merino	2191
5	AH Hall & Co	Tenterden	Poll Dorset x Merino	2019
6	KT & ET Ridgway	Narrikup	W. Suff x F1 Border Leicester	1962
7	PT & IM Jensen & Sons	Pingaring	SAMP x F1 SAMP	1939
8	GN & DL Batt & Co	Boddington	Poll Dorset x Composite	1831
9	KR & SK Powell	Katanning	SAMP x Merino	1802
10	SK & TR Angwin	Wagin	Poll Dorset x Merino	1777

Preg test for more lambs says Heggaton

By BOBBIE HINKLEY

WAMMCO's newest board member, Craig Heggaton, presented his thoughts on ewe and lamb management to attending members and shareholders at last week's State Carcase Competition presentations at Katanning.

Mr Heggaton, who also runs Genstock Animal Breeding Services, said despite a declining lamb supply and the current competition from live export he remained very positive about the future of lambing in WA.

While he didn't claim to have all the answers he did have some ideas on how to safeguard against a poor lambing season.

"It's about making the best of what we have at the time," Mr Heggaton said.

"It's about being proactive not reactive."

Mr Heggaton said that pregnancy scanning was a great strategy because it allowed producers to manage

their pregnant ewes more accurately.

"It's a great management tool to know that you're ewes are pregnant and then you can change your whole management to accommodate your lambing percentage," he said.

"As we all know it was an horrific summer for sheep last year, we had rain through harvest, the feed quality went off and stubbles lost a lot of value.

"Sheep were just going off the boil and not only did we have a bad start to the season where we lost a lot of lambs, but obviously we had a lot of ewes that just didn't conceive."

Mr Heggaton said now that ewe conception rates in WA were on the rise producers should be looking at multiple birth scanning and providing twin bearing ewes with better management.

"The ones that don't deserve as much feed are always the first ones behind the feed trailer, the poor old

ewe that's staggering behind, with two lambs inside her or two lambs following behind her, by the time she gets to the feed it's gone," he said.

Mr Heggaton believes that innovative feed lick technology could provide the answer to this problem.

"There is anecdotal evidence to show that lick feeders might revolutionise how we feed our sheep," he said.

"I think the proof's in the pudding."

Mr Heggaton also spoke about the benefits of grazing wheats in the ewe and lamb management stages.

Agriculture and Food Department officer Johnathon England was also on hand to speak about the Lifetime Ewe Management Program that is offered throughout WA.

The course takes a look at the ewe throughout her reproduction cycle.

"Farmers are encouraged to look at the condition score leading up to joining,



WAMMCO director Craig Heggaton, Kojonup, discusses ewe and lamb management options with producers at the WAMMCO State Carcase Competition presentation day in Katanning last week.

condition score throughout the ewe's pregnancy, lamb birthweights, lamb survival and a whole host of other variables," said Mr England.

Mr Heggaton believes that it is a "very worthwhile course to do."

For course details contact the Department of Agriculture and Food, Narrogin on (09) 9881 0222.