

# Rockdale, Tiarri share Prime SAMM honours

## PRIME SAMM

By WENDY GOULD

TWO southeastern Wheatbelt studs battled it out for top honours in the Prime SAMM arena, with each claiming one of the major championships.

One of the breed's most successful performers in recent years, Rockdale stud, Dumbleyung, exhibited the champion ram while daughter stud Tiarri, Lake Grace, won champion ewe honours.

In a show of consistency, which highlighted the depth of quality in both teams, each claimed the reserve award to the other in the respective championships.

Haydn and Mark Edwards' Rockdale ram then went on to win grand champion of the breed and later supreme interbreed exhibit.

The massive youngster with exceptional length and one of the smoothest, well-muscled body types, came from the milk tooth class eclipsing nine other entries.

His maturity and sire presence at such a young age was not lost on judge Campbell Lawrie, Lawral Park, Ungarra, South Australia.

"This is a real sire of the future," Mr Lawrie said.

"He has an exceptional loin, a strong sirey head, great length and width with a real leg in each corner stance and his natural bare breech is a major bonus for the industry going forward.

"The champion ewe is also an excellent breed representative and showing great maturity for a youngster, but I don't think she offers quite as much punch to the industry as the ram.

"Put them together and I'm sure you'd get something pretty amazing."

The Rockdale champion is one of the first offspring by South African import sire 1202 and out of a Rockdale 0108 dam line.

Having shown the champion ram at last year's Woolorama, Tiarri principals Ross and Pauline Taylor and daughter Kelly-Anne Gooch moved into female territory this year.



**PRIME SAMM CHAMPION RAM AND GRAND CHAMPION**

▣ Judge Campbell Lawrie (left), Lawral Park stud, Ungarra, South Australia, and Mark Edwards, Rockdale stud, Dumbleyung, with Rockdale's champion ram and grand champion Prime SAMM exhibit.

Their champion ewe, also from the milk tooth class, was sired by Gracefield 040646 and out of Kindelka 060306.

Mr Lawrie praised the maturity, femininity and degree of muscle, particularly through the twist, of the winning ewe.

Rockdale's reserve champion ewe was from the same class having played bridesmaid all day to the champion. Her sire, Rockdale 06346, is a son of South African-based, Rockdale-owned sire Hartman 165.

The Taylors have been breeding

Prime SAMMs since 2004, having established their stud on a solid Rockdale base.

Their reserve champion ram, another youngster, was by Rockdale 050182 and out of a homebred Tiarri ewe.

Always one of the most popular and industry relevant classes in the schedule, the milk tooth objective measurement class was won by the Squiers families' Shirlee Downs stud, Quairading, with a son of Shirlee Downs 64606.

The ram weighed 90kg, had the



**PRIME SAMM CHAMPION EWE**

▣ With Tiarri stud's champion Prime SAMM ewe were handler Barry Killick (left), Albany, stud principal Ross Taylor, Lake Grace and judge Campbell Lawrie, Ungarra, South Australia.

highest EMD of 47 with 6mm fat and scored 93.1 points ahead of a Rockdale ram (ET brother to its reserve champion ewe) weighing 105kg with EMD of 44 and 6mm fat for 85.2 points. The third placed Tiarri ram weighed 86kg with 42 EMD, 7mm fat and finished with 83.3 points.

Rockdale completed a clean sweep of ram and ewe pairs awards, the group class, and the progeny class with a team sired by Rockdale 06346.

Tiarri finished second in the ram pair, the group class and progeny class

while Shirlee Downs claimed second in the ewe pair.

With his client-based abattoir and restaurant-direct supply chains, Campbell Lawrie, knows the value of quality breeding and presentation and it was something he praised WA breeders highly for.

"They always turn their sheep out superbly and the outstanding quality of sheep shown here today reflects the depth within their breeding programs," he said.

"It made for some very tough decisions."