

Livestock

Poll Dorset lambs finish on top



WAMMCO chairman Dawson Bradford (second left), Hillcroft Farms Poll Dorset stud, Popanyinning, congratulated the overall heavyweight winner of the 2010-11 WAMMCO State Prime Lamb Carcase Competition, Sheldon Kowald, Capemont Farms, Katanning, at the awards presentation day held at the New Lodge Motel, Katanning, last week. Flanking them were competition sponsors Reg Crabb, Milne Feeds, Henry Strating, Superior Livestock Services and Peter Sheridan, Primaries Katanning. Capemont Farms winning entry of 102 Poll Dorset-Merino lambs scored 2702.45 points.

By KANE CHATFIELD

POLL Dorsets replaced Prime SAMMs at the top of the WAMMCO State Prime Lamb Carcase Competition when consistent supporters of the competition since 2005, the Kowald family, Capemont Farms, Katanning, won the prestigious overall heavyweight trophy for the 2010-11 season.

Sheldon Kowald, who has regularly finished in the top two to five places in the past, accepted the award on behalf of his family at the presentation announcement at Katanning last week.

Mr Kowald acknowledged

the standard and reputation of the competition continues to grow which was evident in the increasing number of lamb producers attending the presentation day.

He said it was fantastic to finally win the competition and jokingly thanked the recent three time winners out of four years the Edwards family, Rockdale Prime SAMM stud, Dumbleyung, for not entering lambs this year.

Along with the Hillcroft Farms Poll Dorset-Willemenu Merino lambs, the Kowald family also entered Rockdale Prime SAMM-Willemenu Merino

lambs in this year's competition that saw them announced as January's WAMMCO Producer of the Month and seventh place overall.

The winning consignment consisted of 102 Poll Dorset-Merino lambs that averaged 26.67kg carcase weight, 2.90 fat score and 32 per cent WAMMCO lean meat yield.

This saw 88.2pc of the carcasses attract bonus points to finish the competition with 2702.45 points and handed a cheque for \$4000.

With a prize pool of almost \$18,000 in cash and prizes, the WAMMCO

competition is Australia's richest lamb carcase competition.

Entries almost doubled on last year with 30,287 lambs evaluated from 123 entries from 84 WAMMCO members.

Of these members, 17 entered two or more consignments and used the results to compare different genetics and feeding regimes including one producer who entered close to 3000 lambs in 16 lines.

Minimum consignments of 100 lambs were received between August 16, 2010 and February 25, 2011 and entered into the overall heavyweight, trade or