



E-News Autumn 2019

WELCOME to AMMO's latest E-news!

The purpose of the E-news is to keep members and mohair growers informed of AMMO happenings and provide information on the Company and our achievements. If you know of anyone not receiving this e-news please make sure AMMO has their current email address.

New Sale Seasons

In order to improve workflow and reduce costs at AMMO we have had to move sale dates for this year and anticipate further changes in 2020. At this stage we are planning to sell in March and October 2020. The closing date for the first 2019 sale is to be closely adhered to, and producers are encouraged to take note of the closing dates and book shearers accordingly where possible.

A2019 Sale season closes on 12th April 2019 – Get your clip in now!!!! Don't wait until the last minute or you will risk being left out!

If your shearing is finished or you have mohair stored in the shed that is pest free and clean, now is the time to make an effort to send it in for pooling. Please don't wait until the end of the season. Prices are very good and clearance rates remain high. We hope we can look forward to receiving your mohair soon!

B2019 Sale will be closing on 9th August 2019 with a sale on 21st October 2019.

Changes to our warehouse systems

After the classing school and preparation workshop held at Narrandera in the third week of October 2018, a discussion between Ivan Smith from Sudwolle, G.T Ferreira, Craig Clancy and Brett Grant took place regarding possible improvements to our layout and binning system.

We can now report on the implementation of some of these suggestions, resulting in a re-configuration of RACKS and BINS.

Now all kid lines have been placed into one bank of Racks, while there is a central double bin section of Young Goat types. This will make it easier when classing and our ability to compare fibre which might be on the border of KID/Young Goat. Adult Hair lines are on a different rack and outsorts are over against the far wall.





We have introduced a numbered and coloured coded Binning system for all our pooling bins and racks, and our classing sheets have the corresponding descriptions and bin numbers on them. The plastic tubs around the classing table where we place classed fibre are also correspondingly numbered.

Bins in all sections run in logical numerical order, all age groups are kept in their separate bank of bins or racks and there is no bank of bins or racks containing mixed types, as was the case in the past.

These changes already appear to be working very well and if a new employee is helping to pool fibre, they can do so by a bin number instead of having to recognise a confusing character based description.

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE PHOTOS, ALL BINS / RACKS ARE NUMBERED AND HAVE COLOUR CODED DESCRIPTION PLATES ON THEM.

TYPE	COLOUR	BIN NUMBER RANGE
KIDS	BLUE	BINS 1-17
YG	GREEN	BINS 21-28
YG	GREEN	BINS 29-35
ADULTS	YELLOW	BINS 40-57
Stns, Lox's, Cots	RED	BINS 60-73



The classing area has also had a major clean-up and reorganise, and is set now for the new season.

Judging in Tasmania



Craig was asked to attend the Tasmanian Goat Show Held in Deloraine on 23/24th Feb 2019 and also took his wife Kristen along, and the couple took advantage of a brief holiday afterwards. As it happened our Board Chairman, Brett Grant and his wife Sandra were also to be in Tasmania at that time and attended the show to represent AMMO.

Craig judged the fleece sections on the Saturday afternoon the 23rd of February. He stated, "It was very pleasing to see quite a few good quality entries amongst those exhibited. The first place getters and especially the Champion and reserve Champion fleece entries were of good staple length, good handle, low kemp levels and showed a very good style and character."

The animals were judged on the Sunday morning, with a break for a sausage sizzle at lunch which was much appreciated by all that partook.

A short classing and preparation school was held in the afternoon after a photo session with the winners and place getters in the animal sections.

Craig reported, "The quality of the better and best entries in the Angora sections was good, and it was pleasing to see the industry well represented in this state."

Craig was very pleased to have seen a commitment from some producers in recent years to address the kemp problem by purchasing quality bucks from the mainland. "By introducing better quality less medulated (kempy) bucks this will, and has already in some cases, improved the quality of the fibre and this also assists in broadening the genetic pool which is essential for further improvement in quality," he said.

Craig and his wife Kristen had a most enjoyable stay in Tasmania and they said it was very difficult to leave. He enjoyed meeting producers, some for the first time face to face, and also to catching up with some old friends such as Ian Howell and others.



Craig and Brett would like to thank Mary Orledge, Vicki Winley, Mohair Australia-Tasmania, and any others involved with the organisation of the show, and all those who competed.

Vale Ian Howell

It with much sadness that we learned of the death of famed Tasmanian Shearer, Ian Howell on Wednesday 27th March. Ian was certainly a character, the likes of whom will likely not be seen again in the industry. As a shearer he was always ready to travel around and shear animals both on the Island and the Mainland and for many years was the AMMO receival agent in Tassie. In his various jalopies with shearing rig on the roof, he would travel about and regale producers all over with his stories and personality. After the passing of his beloved wife, Andrea (Bub), Ian went into semi retirement but his love of the industry remained strong and he always attended industry events and remained a staunch supporter. Ian most lately attended the Tasmanian show and Craig was grateful to have a chance to “catch up” with him there. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this sad time and we hope they can draw some small comfort in the renown and recognition this industry has for their Dad. R.I.P.



Weaving Type Fibre A2019

Weaving Type fibre classing is scheduled to take place in the week prior to the June sale.

Please contact AMMO to arrange a time if you want to see your fibre being classed by GT.

Producers requiring tagging of animals for the Weaving Type should contact GT to organise a suitable time. It would be helpful if participants could co-ordinate with GT to arrange ‘runs’ covering geographical areas. This will maximise the number of producers who can use this service to tag new kids or new flocks entering the project. Please call or email to make a booking.

NB: By having GT tag and assess your animals you are undertaking a commitment to consign the mohair from these animals to AMMO, thus ensuring adherence to the Quality Assurance as pertains to the Classing Standard Requirements for the weaving type mohair and subsequent sale of these mohair types.

New Classing Standards

Just in case you haven’t heard or seen the new standards for classing of your mohair, we just wanted to remind producers that lengths have changed to reflect lengths used Internationally and there have been a few other changes as well in the way your mohair is described when offered for sale.

FKID AND YOUNG GOAT - It has become apparent over the past few years there is a considerable amount of FK (Fine kid) and YG (young goat) mohair falling into ‘D’ length. As a result super style lines have been introduced for both FK and YG to improve the uniformity of style and character.

DSFK: D length Good/Very good style and character FK.

DFK: D length average style and character FK.

DSYG: D length Good/Very good style and character YG.

DYG: D length average style and character YG.

VEGETABLE FAULT LINES

All light vegetable fault lines are now described as they would be in the Cape.(i.e. 'SDY' an abbreviation of Seedy)

So CFKSDY is C length fine kid with light veg fault. CFYGSDY is C length fine young goat with light veg fault.
CFHSDY is C length fine adult with light veg fault.

Note: All veg fault lines carry a C length in the description as the majority of staple length in these types historically would average C length, also the old STNV description has been replaced by STNSDY.

ADULT

To maintain uniformity a DSFFH line has been added to the fine adult lines.

As our Australian mohair has very significantly improved in relation to kemp levels in recent years, especially the Kid and YG types, we have for some time now only run a kempy fleece line to cater for adult micron/type fibre. Our old CFHK description has now been replaced by **CXFH** C length fine adult light kemp. (i.e a 'K' in a description only indicates a 'Kid' line not a 'Kempy' line.)

At AMMO Ltd, We will always strive to continue to improve what we do and to keep our valued clients, Buyers and stake holders informed of any changes we make. A copy of the new Standards can be downloaded from our website <http://ausmohair.com.au/mohair-preperation/mohair-classing/> or we can send you out a copy and a length card to use in the shed when you're classing – just let us know!

Making More Money from Mohair! – October 2019

AMMO Ltd will present a marvellous opportunity for a limited number of producers to be schooled in proper preparation of their mohair clip. A highly knowledgeable and experienced classer from overseas will assist us to present this informative, not to be missed, training. This two day event will present producers with an ideal opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the International mohair scene, the market needs, the potential for growth and the rewards for better production and preparation. We are holding this 2 day school here in Narrandera and once again stress that only a limited number of participants will be accepted. Learn about classing to International Standards and what potential this can unlock for you and your mohair. Restricted numbers will allow for specialised tuition!

The event will be an ideal opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the International mohair scene, the market needs, the potential for growth, and the rewards for better production and preparation.

It's an opportunity not to be missed! You can be one to differentiate yourself from other producers and smile all the way to the bank if you apply the knowledge from the event.

Again—it will be a *limited opportunity* for a maximum of 20 participants so get in early to reserve your place. If you have already registered an interest in attending, please confirm with the office.

We do hope to run similar events in the future, but don't miss out. Contact the office to register today. Cost will be **\$200 per person** with lunches included both days. **Phone, fax or email today!**

New West Australian Transport Arrangements

Following on from the withdrawal of services by our last transport operator from WA, we can now advise that fibre can be consigned to Melbourne via Northline Transport 84 Logistics Boulevard Kenwick. Ph 1300 722 534

Please ensure payment is made up-front as mohair will not leave WA until payment is made. Phone for a quote.

Through the door payments – Cash up front!



To help producers who have small numbers of goats and consign under 50kgs of fibre at a time, to better manage their cash flow, AMMO has introduced a “through the door” purchase arrangement. This is a huge investment in the industry going forward and it may also help smaller producers who don’t wish to wait up to six months for payment. Producers will be offered prices amounting to approximately 88.5% of the previous auction price for payment immediately the fibre is received and classed ONLY if requested. The usual charges will apply and be deducted from the payment. (Of course you can still elect to have your consignment included in the auction and wait to receive payment until after the action is finalised)

Advance payments

Producers can choose to take advantage of our Advance payment option at any time, on pooled or weaving type fibre, by requesting direct to the office or via consignment note, for an advance to be paid. Advance payments of \$4.00 per kilo can be made and will be deducted from sale proceeds prior to payment after the auction.

AMMO Sponsorship

Once again in 2019 AMMO can announce its sponsorship of The Royal Adelaide Show Angora section and the Sydney Royal Easter Show. AMMO provides prizes of cash and vouchers for classing and handling and continues to promote better breeding of angoras nationally. We look forward to receiving this year’s show fleeces into our warehouse for pooling and sale. Congratulations to exhibitors and winners in advance at these events.



Champion Doe 2018 Sydney Royal School Exhibitors and mohair fleeces on display after judging.

Sustainable Farming Practices within the Mohair Industry

It has been without doubt that recent media concerning the abhorrent practices of some angora producers in South Africa have thrown the industry into the world spotlight in relation to our own on-farm management practices. Whilst we firmly believe that most Australian Angora farmers are diligent in their care and maintenance of their valuable angora flocks, it is up to the industry to prove and demonstrate these practices to the world’s processors or sale of our product will be affected. Like it or not the politically correct movement is gaining momentum and we cannot afford to be left behind. AMMO has already seen some reluctance of a buyer to purchase fibre that is not sustainably produced because his processor demanded assurance. Therefore we are joining with Mohair Australia to formulate a plan to address this situation. Whilst we appreciate that the costs associated with these changes will not be welcome by most producers, it will become a requirement to selling mohair into the future. Most farmers already are aware of MLA guidelines for production but only in relation to meat, whilst very little has been done in regards to sustainable fibre production for mohair. The sheep and wool industry are already placing demands on producers in this regard and looking to develop sustainability plans and methods of monitoring these amongst farmers. Right now though there is a move to develop a plan for the South African farmers which may need to be adapted for mohair producers in this country. We will keep you informed. In the meantime we recommend that you keep a production and husbandry diary in some form if you are not already doing so.