

On Farm



## OLD COBRAN

### POLL MERINO STUD

**ANNUAL ON-PROPERTY  
SPRING RAM AUCTION**

Commencing Monday 8th September  
Inspection 11.00am Sale 1.00pm

Select from:  
**60 Specially Selected Rams**

TEST RESULTS AVAILABLE!

Light Luncheon Provided

**Clyde McKenzie**  
0427 842 342

**Cameron Martin** 0428 510 287  
**Matthew Martin** 0427 345 227

**Warren Bull**  
0429 120 055

Don't miss Prime Lamb Annual

free with *The Land* next week

## THE REAL DUAL PURPOSE ALTERNATIVE

Unclassed Rams, July/August 2007 drop

## SELLING AT DUBBO 2 RAMS

Peter & Lou Capel  
Manilla Ph: (02) 6785 7345  
Mobile: 0428 857 348

**Annual On-Property Ram Sale  
Friday 24th October, 2008 - 96 Rams**

# Second skins

By CARLA WIESE-SMITH

PRODUCTIVITY losses associated with hypothermia in sheep post-shearing may be a thing of the past for Monaro farmers, Tony and Mary Goodwin, Countegany Station, Numeralla, near Cooma, thanks to a new product called Thermoskin. The Goodwins run a commercial enterprise of about 2200 sheep and a small number of Angus cattle on their 405-hectare home block plus lease and agistment properties. The fourth generation farmers have always run sheep and cattle, however, sheep provide their biggest income through the sale of wool and surplus stock. On average, the sheep provide two-thirds of the income and the balance is from the cattle. Cattle have been present since Mr Goodwin's grandfather acquired the Angus in 1930, while the Goodwin Merinos are based predominantly on the Barron family's Adina bloodlines, which they have used almost exclusively for the past 10 years. Mr Goodwin endeavours to breed structurally sound, fertile, well-covered sheep. Animals are culled on size, poor conformation, style, short staple, colour, handle and anything that may predispose the animal to flystrike. Mr Goodwin said he aimed for the clip to be a medium-type wool possessing fine crimp definition and length of staple. Last year his ewes averaged 20 micron, but the flock average was 19.2 micron, with the wool cut usually in the six to six-and-a-half kilogram range. The last Countegany wool sale brought 690 cents a kilogram.



## Fine form at Numeralla

**A**FTER seeing a trial of Thermoskin two years ago at his neighbour's place and having a chat with its designer, Henry King, Monaro district wool grower, Tony Goodwin, Countegany Station, Numeralla, decided to try the product for himself. Thermoskin is an environmentally-friendly lanolin-based liquid sprayed onto shorn animals to form a film to help prevent hypothermia.

Mr Goodwin (pictured) applied the Thermoskin using the Automatic Spray System. The Countegany sheep have only had Thermoskin applied in the past couple of weeks, but so far Mr Goodwin is happy with the results. "We have had some cold, wet weather and also snow and heavy frosts," he said. "So far they look to be holding their condition."

Ewes are joined in mid-April to lamb in September. Two rams cover about 140 to 150 ewes between them, producing an average of 100 per cent lambing. Countegany Station comprises what Mr Goodwin calls "well-improved" pastures full of perennial grasses such as rye, fescue, cocksfoot and sub-clovers. In a good year feed is plentiful, but in the past few drought years the Goodwins have had to supplementary feed their stock with hay and cattle nuts. Mr Goodwin also grows forage crops of turnips

and oats for winter feed. Turnips grow well in the area and are sown for grazing only. Mr Goodwin uses direct drill and minimum till methods to establish pasture. Paddocks are sown to crops for the first two years, and then to pasture in the third year. High analysis fertiliser is generally used but this year Mr Goodwin is concerned about the high prices for such fertiliser. While the country is good, it is slightly selenium deficient, and so each sheep receives a selenium pellet bi-annually.

## CENTRAL MERINO BREEDERS

presents

### Merinos without Mulesing Combining Meat, Wool & Fertility

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Wellington Showground, Wellington 9am-3pm

Hands on inspection of SRS Merino Studs

AMM • Bella Liana • Boxleigh Park • Glenwood • Gullen Gamble • Hilltop  
• Miramoona • Mumblebone • Parkdale

Key Industry Speakers

• Jim Watts (SRS) • Michael Fitzsimmons (InStyle Textiles)  
• Roy Biddle (Straban Eco lamb)

RSVP to Norm Smith 6845 3665 or Hugh Taylor 6845 3669

GENETICS AVAILABLE @ WELLINGTON MERINO RAM SALE 11TH OCTOBER 2008