

## **Flocknews September 2021**

### **1. Worms, worms, worms!!**

There have been a lot of heavy worm burdens on farm during this wet winter. It is important to understand the components of worm control don't just involve drenching but also include pasture and animal management, conducting worm egg counts and STRATEGIC drenching. Paddocks need to be set up in advance for at risk animals (weaners, lambing ewes) by spelling and grazing with non-risk animals (weathers, cattle etc) for up to 6 months, depending on the system. In order to monitor your worm burdens and drench resistance have a talk to us at the clinic about collecting faecal samples and submitting them for worm egg counts. For extra reading, jumping on to WORM BOSS as it is a useful resource: <http://www.wormboss.com.au/sheep-goats/>



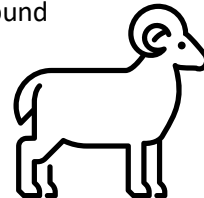
### **2. Ram Teasers! Have you got yours ready?**

It is the perfect time of year to start preparing your ram teasers (vasectomised rams). Did you know that ram teasers can be used to optimise your out of season joining (mid-October) as well as your maiden ewe joinings? In the past, injectable hormones have been used however these are being phased out and only last a few weeks. Vasectomised rams can be used every season! Our vets are available to answer any questions and we can perform the procedure at our practice (Dr. Frankie is pictured performing the procedure).



### **3. Getting ready for the upcoming joining season**

Did you know your rams and ewes should be organised and checked BEFORE joining? It is a good idea to check over your ram team up to 8 weeks prior to joining to make sure they are in order to service your ewes. At the same time, it is equally important to do the same with your ewes to make sure they are capable of raising a lamb (no carry over mastitis, no lameness, sound mouth etc). By doing this prior to joining, you will have time to correct the problem or find replacement animals, therefore allowing you to optimise your joining rates. The team at Rochy are available to help conduct these examinations especially ram checks.



***Please call the clinic to update our system with your email account for future newsletter editions (03) 5484 2255. Do not hesitate to get in touch with Rochy Vets today!***