

Eid tags in the Commercial Sheep Enterprise

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2015 Rural Youth Bursary



Eid tags in the commercial Sheep Enterprise

My project was to look into the benefits of using eid tags to enhance performance in the commercial sheep enterprise

Matesel

- “Designer” matings

- direction, magnitude and pattern of genetic change for different traits

- avoidance of progeny inbreeding

- managing longer-term genetic diversity

- use of reproductive boosting (eg. superovulation)

- Flock based ASBV figures

Rob Kelly - Guyra

- Runs 1700 55 – 60kg merino ewes
- Eid tags for genetic and health management
- Uses techno grazing



Congi Station

- 10 000Ha
- 14 000 commercial merino ewes
- 500 stud ewes (breed their own rams)
- 9 000 wethers. All have indexes
- 2 500 cattle

Rick Luhrs – Weighing Lambs

- Lambs get eid tag at marking
- Weighed at marking
- Reweighed at weaning
- Culling bottom 5%



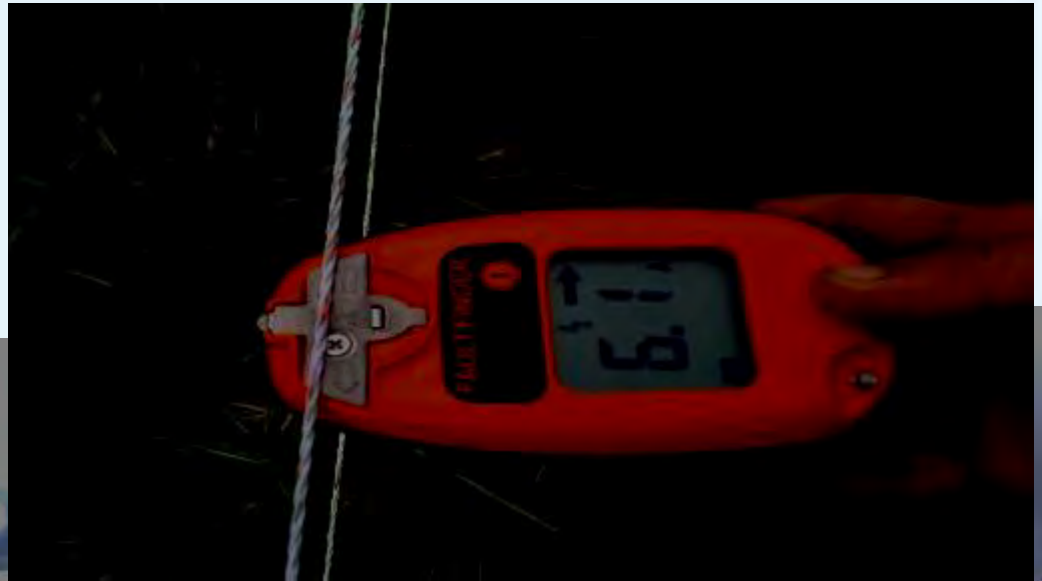
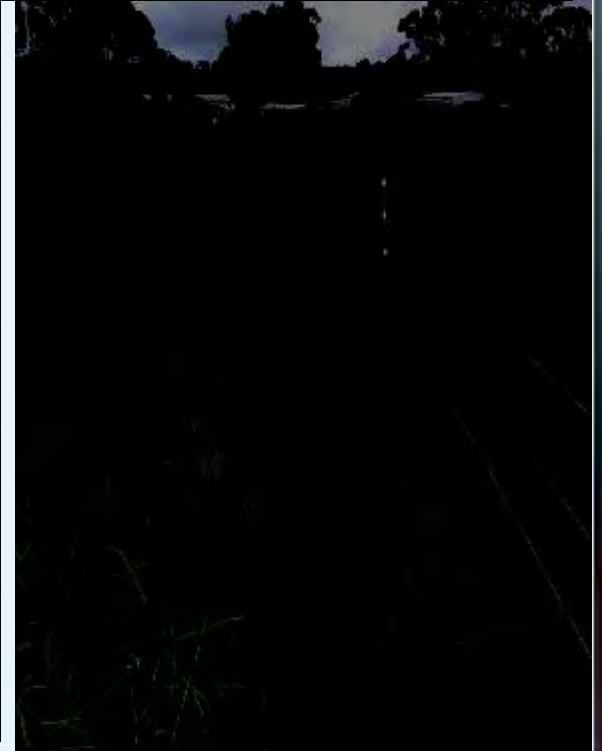
What I learnt

- Substantial benefits from eid in commercial operations
- Will allow for improving individual sheep's profitability while maintaining low inputs
- Whats next? Is it feasible to track sheep for better animal health?

What I've implemented

- Sheep all have eid tags at birth
- Using Matesel for the first time this year
- Giving strip grazing a go

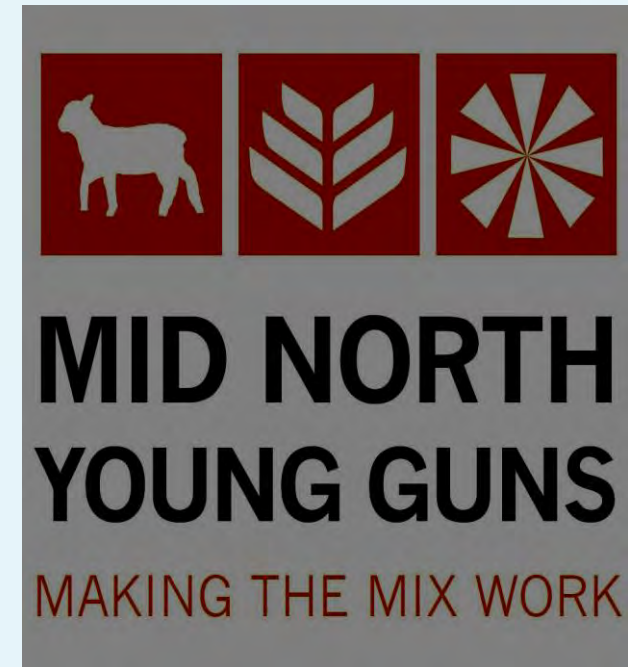
Strip grazing



Mid North Young Guns

- Developing skills
- Encouraging new ideas

- Sheepno Project
 - 5 scholars investigating technology
 - Funding for project plus mentoring



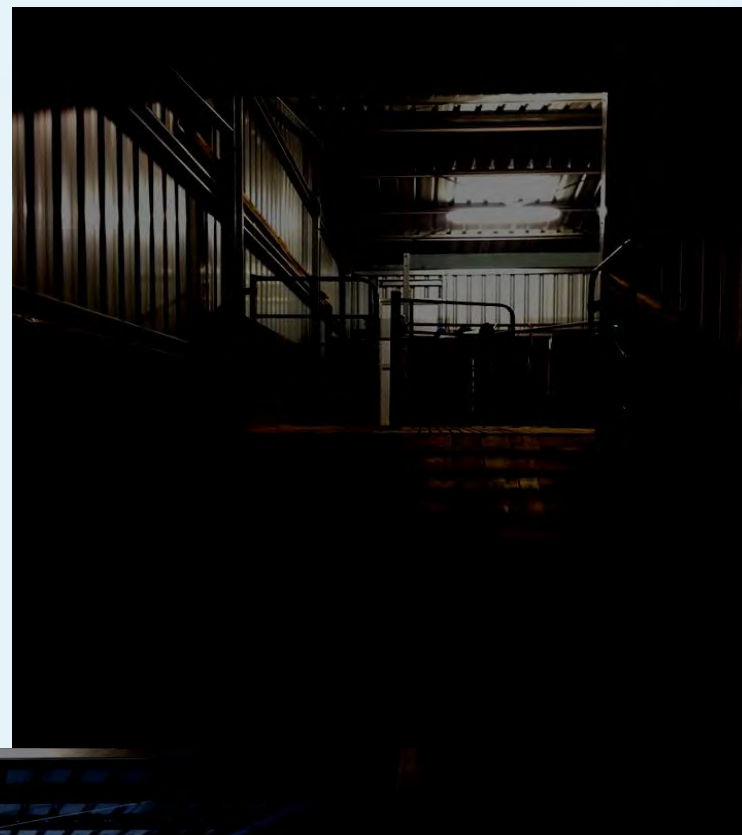
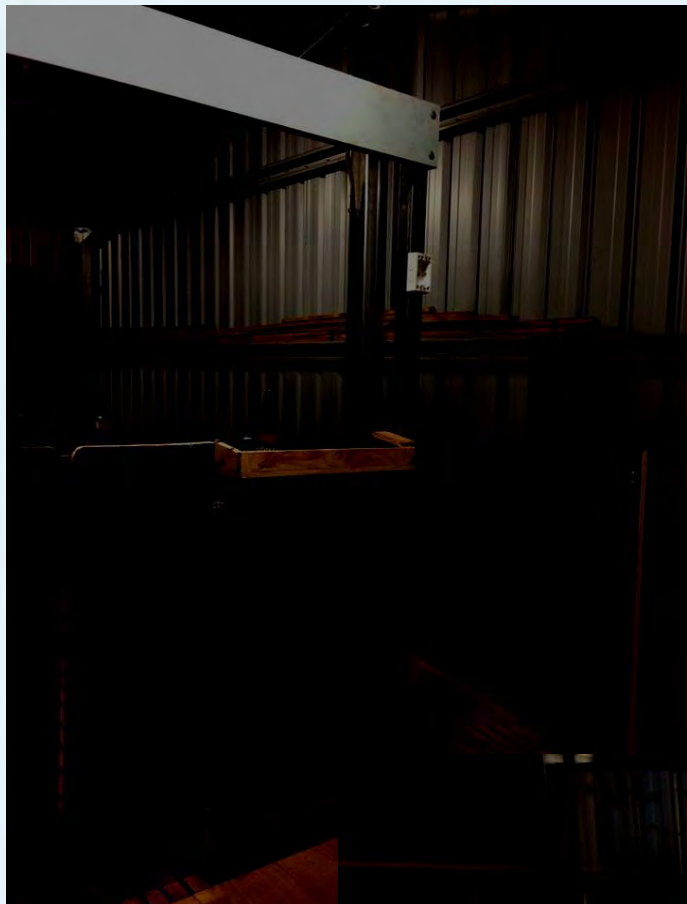
MNYG Training Day



Upcoming event







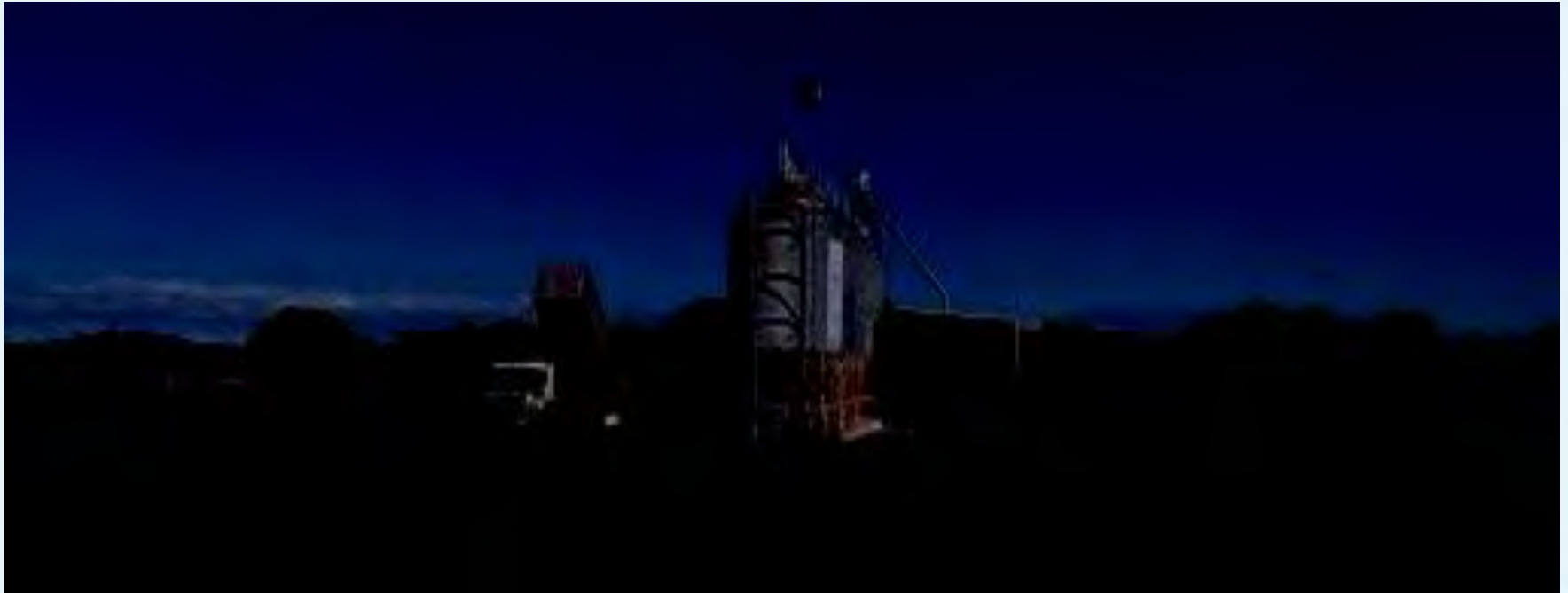
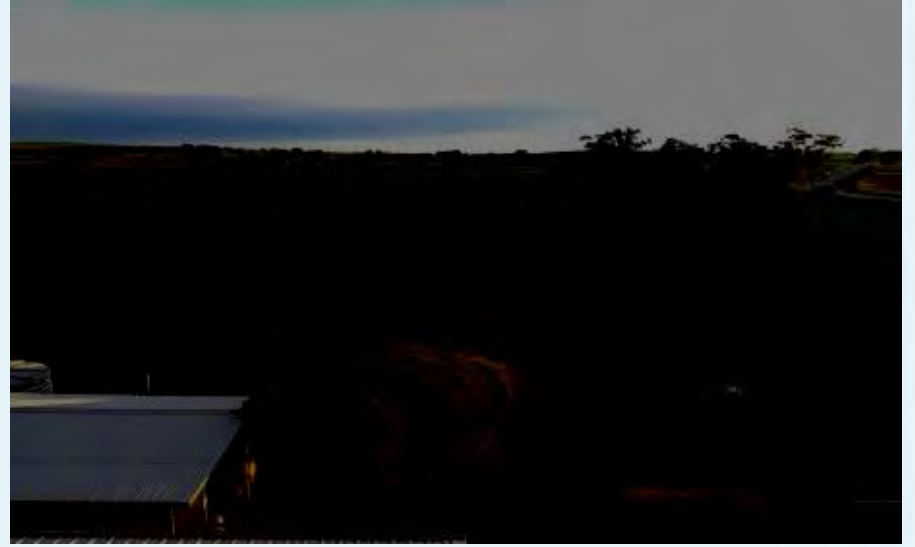
Exciting times ahead for Ag

- Technology becoming cheaper
- Excitement growing in the industry
- We are the greatest asset to the future of a solid agricultural future.

Peter Olsen's Fellowship for Young Farmers

Rural Youth Bursary

- Believe in yourself
- Sell yourself more than your product
- Forced me to be proactive
- Contact with leading industry experts
- Identify opportunities



Questions?

