



GLANNA

MERINO AND POLL MERINO STUDS

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Glanna Body Mass Score.... We have developed a Body "size" scoring system to highlight the differences that exist between sheep that are tall and long bodied compared to ones that are average height but wide and robust.

The aim being to have as large as possible wool and meat growing area

This is a within flock and mob measurement . For example when comparing animals they need to be measured at the same time and be the same age and sex etc. There are some `targets at different ages to aim for but vary on seasonal and environment impacts each year.

The **BMS Score** is defined at the Body circumference (cm) at the mid section (minus the wool length at mid side (cm) times 2) times the length of body from the base of the neck to the tail (cm) (in a straight line).

$((\text{Body Circumference cm} - (\text{Wool length cm} \times 2)) \times \text{Body Length cm})$ divided by 100

Example: Ram 1.

154cm circumference

4.5cm wool growth

89cm length of body

89cm height of body

BMS $154\text{cm} - (4.5\text{cm} \times 2 = 9\text{cm}) = 145\text{cm} \times 89\text{cm} = 12905\text{cmsq}$ divided by 100 = 129 BMS

The BMS (A) Score is the above but adding the animals height at the hips (cm) for those aiming for a tall animal also.

$((\text{Body Circumference cm} - (\text{Wool length cm} \times 2)) \times \text{Body Length cm})$ divided by 100) + Height

BMS(A) $154\text{cm} - (4.5\text{cm} \times 2 = 9\text{cm}) = 145\text{cm} \times 89\text{cm} = 12905\text{cmsq}$ divided by 100 = 129 + 89 = 218 BMS(A)

If BMS(A) is used then the BMS must always be quoted also for comparison purposes.

In large mobs these may be expressed as a deviation from the mean but in small mobs or group (eg. Hamilton Ram Sale Team) the raw figures as shown.

It is very interesting to note the very strong relationship between the body length and height at the hips (below 5% deviation in cm).

The reasons these measurements have been used is below:

1. Circumference at the mid section was used to encourage a good spring of rib and doing ability.
2. Length from base of the neck removes the neck extension differences among animals and is also the natural starting point of the wool and meat growing area.
3. Wool measurement only multiplied by 2 as upon numerous testing with different measuring techniques this was found to standardize the general total size as the animal is not completely cylinder in shape and by doing this enabled us to simplify the measuring.

The body circumference or spring of rib has a major impact on the Body Mass Score but is reduced to a degree when using the Body Mass (A) measurement taking the animal height into consideration.

The wool and meat on sheep are grown on the major part of the body not on the legs past the hock.