

## Proof is in profit

PRODUCING superior genetics with proven results has never been a more appropriate slogan than now for Chris and Tania Parker's Summit Park Texel stud at Hamilton.

By identifying high performance ewes and using embryo transfer and artificial insemination, then matching these with complementary attributes of the best performance-recorded rams, Summit Park Texels has achieved another big step forward in quality, structure and genetic gain.

Performance data is used to select and breed for low birth weight, growth and muscling, and to produce high yielding lambs with high resistance to worms while maintaining structural functionality.

These key features are the drivers that result in increased profitability for clients.

Mr Parker's passion for genetics and the sheep industry has seen him travel extensively across Victoria, NSW and Tasmania as an industry service provider for nearly 14 years, but it is at home at Hamilton where local clients have bought Texel rams to increase their lamb quality and yield that he finds his greatest satisfaction.

Caitlin Sanderson, Dunkeld, bought a 2013-drop Texel ram and put him over her fine wool Merino ewes as well as first cross ewes and couldn't be happier with the results, having no trouble with lambing.

"The lambs have a calm temperament and are easy handling, and they have a very fast growth rate," Ms Sanderson said.

Temperament and ease of handling are important factors when selecting a ram.

One shearer even told Mr Parker that the Texel ram was the calmest sheep of any breed that they had ever handled.

Another client from Edenhope used a Texel ram over Texel ewes and Border-Merino ewes, with ewes having ease of lambing and lambs showing great energy at birth.

"The lambs grew quickly with great muscling, especially in the most profitable cuts of meat such as the loin and rump. They may not look big like some other breeds but they weigh like lead, with a pure Texel ram lamb growing at 510 grams live weight per day to eight weeks-old being a standout," he said.



■ Summit Park Texel sale ram lambs.  
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