



*Trade Mark of Excellence*

## **ASWGA Mudgee Region Report July 2010**

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Mudgee Region President has had other things on his mind (see accompanying article) so this report has been completed by the Councillor.

Six months is a long time in politics and can be just as long on the land. Mudgee /region has gone from what appeared to be a looming disaster in late December, with little feed and water disappearing at an alarming rate, to one of the best Autumns in recent years. This has been followed by a couple of the coldest frosts and accompanying winter days at the end of June.

The effect this has on the district's wool clip is yet to be seen but there appears to be some variation as growers are reporting some very sound clips as well as some weakness due to seasonal variations.

One factor that has remained strong is the meat market. Both mutton and lamb markets have been good and woolgrowers are increasingly offloading wethers at prices of \$100 plus, and joining more ewes to mat-breed rams as they would have to shear the sheep for four years or more to obtain the same return that they can achieve in one year.

The region again featured strongly in the Ermenegildo Zegna Awards with Ed and Jill Hundy of Windradeen winning the Vellus Aureum trophy which was a first time for our region. Ed and Jill also won the award for the most successful exhibitor from 1967 to 2010, having been successful on 9 different occasions. Andrew and Penny Hundy, also of Windradeen, won the [protected fleece section while Daryl and Irene Croake took out third place in both the protected and unprotected sections. This is a truly great result from these two families who have figured regularly in this competition.

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*The members of the Mudgee Region of the Superfine Woolgrowers would like to congratulate their President, Sam Rayner, on his recent marriage.*

*Sam married Olivia Chapman in a romantic ceremony in the Cathedral Cave at Jenolan Caves on May 29<sup>th</sup>. The officiating celebrant was John Gray (of Shute Bell). Sam and Olivia spent their honeymoon in Fiji before returning to live in Mudgee.*

*We wish them both happiness and prosperity for their future together.*

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