



AUSTRALIAN SUPERFINE WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION INC

ABN: 41 338 467 905

Victorian Wool Centre, 691 Geelong Road, Brooklyn Vic 3025

Telephone: 03 9318 0399

e-mail: aswga@woolindustries.org

Facsimile: 03 9318 0877

ASWGA New England Region Report

November 2009

The New England region has had an average year weatherwise. Our eastern side has had extreme rain events and is still going well. The western side is in severe drought. Rainfall is about average along the New England Highway from Uralla to Tenterfield. A lot of bigger Superfine properties have destocked their sheep and put cattle on, finding they are now out of water and feed.

The most significant news out of New England, particularly the Uralla, Walcha and

Armidale Shires, is that about 200,000 Merinos have had been slaughtered for export. This includes a lot of wethers, as well as significant numbers of ewes.

This year's micron count is about 1 micron finer than normal. Wool prices are about 70% down on this time last year, and bale numbers are about 50% down, so times are not so good in the New England. With a poor lambing season as well, the region's wool industry is struggling mightily.