



## **ASWGA Mudgee Region Report**

### **July 2009**

Even though more rain reached our region this season, a shortfall has still been felt leaving stocking numbers and winter feed at the forefront of every body's mind. With the frosts starting late this year pockets lucky enough to see showers of rain around the region have held a green tinge late into June.



**Photo 1: "Dun Dun" Ewes**

The Mudgee group has had a quiet year, our only event being the social dinner held in Hill End, with guest speaker Chick Olsson, director of AWI. This was an extremely well attended function, giving everybody a chance to catch up and to question Mr. Olsson about issues affecting the industry, and a little bit of politics that had been publicised at the time.

Congratulations for our local winners in the Ultimate Clip Preparation Awards. Ian, Val, Murray, and Nella Price from "Glen Maye" for winning our area with 84.5 points.

A number of ASWGA members from Mudgee attended the 10th anniversary gala party and showcase auction for Australian Wool Network. In January, some local Members took part in the Mudgee Merino Field days, which saw a steady crowd all day inspecting the rams and stock on display. The high light of the day was the sheep rugging displays of "Wool Over" rugs at Pomanara. With the studs open for the field days spread over a large area, it was a big day's drive for eager spectators. The same members will have a stand at the Mudgee Small Farm Field days in the coming weeks.

The issue of the profitability of fat lambs has made for tricky management decisions for local members. With stagnating wool prices and record returns for lamb producers, putting out terminal sires has become a reality for a lot of members. Though not done lightly, enterprises bottom lines have had to be weighed against members love and passion for their fibre.

In closing I would like to thank all of our committee members giving their time especially Bob Colley, as our member to federal council, and Nella Price as our secretary.

#### **Change in Mudgee Region Executive**



**Photo 2: Nella Price - standing down after 10 years of dedicated work as Secretary/Treasurer of the Mudgee Region**

At their recent Annual general meeting, Mudgee region members saw Sam Rayner continue in the role of President he took on last year. Mrs Nella Price relinquished the combined Secretary/treasurer position this year. Nella has been a long-standing member of the executive, having held the position of Secretary and then Secretary/Treasurer for the last 10 years. The Mudgee Association acknowledges Nella's commitment and diligence and would like to thank her for all her hard work. The region's new Secretary/Treasurer is Mrs Gai Rayner.