



# AUSTRALIAN SUPERFINE WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION INC

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## **ASWGA Albury/Wodonga Regional Report**

### **November 2008**

A season of contrasts would probably best describe the last twelve months in our region. In some respects it was similar to last season but with greater extremes. A dry autumn, good May, June and July, a very poor August, September, October and then a wettish November. We had useful rain for cereal planting in May and June but there was insufficient rain in spring which meant a poor hay harvest and a fairly ordinary cereal harvest.

Not mulesing lambs has been a challenge. I am hopeful that if I select lambs to breed from that haven't got excess wrinkle around the breech that we may be able to breed a plainer breech

sheep. Probably 50% of lambs I would classify as suitable so it will be interesting to see how quickly we can increase the number.

Those of us lucky enough to catch the wool market rise in September had a reasonable return but sales are fairly ordinary at the moment.

Most people continue to further reduce both sheep and cattle numbers as stock water increasingly becomes the overriding issue. Most producers with cattle are opting to sell. We are hopeful of useful growth of native pasture, but more annual type pasture is not a lot of value anymore.