



*Trade Mark of Excellence*

## Tasmanian Region Report March 2011

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The superfine wool growing areas of Tasmania have received good rainfall throughout the summer without experiencing the major damage from floods that has been seen on the mainland

Most of the pastures have dried off but still have a green bottom and as such, most livestock are travelling very well. Although some worm problems are being experienced with the young sheep. Fly strike was a major problem early in summer.

We have finally seen that dramatic lift in the wool market that we have been waiting for. This has given renewed confidence to the people who have continued to grow superfine wool. However it should be noted that a lot of the Tasmanian clip was sold before December thus missing out on these prices. Hopefully these prices will continue for a number of years giving all growers a chance to try and “catch up”.

Unfortunately the price rise has come too late for many growers who have already changed enterprises. It is hard to imagine the supply of superfine wool increasing rapidly as it is virtually impossible to source large numbers of superfine ewes in Tasmania.

The first “Tasmanian” wool sale held in Melbourne (Feb) was a success. Prices were excellent and competition was strong from most exporters. A small group of growers (12-15) travelled to the sales. Hopefully these numbers will increase in the future as wool raises its profile again. It is vital that this sale continues to maintain the Tasmanian identity.

Contact with the wool trade and the opportunity to view your wool on the show floor are a couple of valid reasons to encourage growers to make the trip to Melbourne.

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