

MEDIA RELEASE

Detpa Grove sets new benchmarks

The Pipkorn family's Detpa Grove White Suffolk stud, Jeparit, Vic, continues its standing as one of the very top meat-sheep breed studs in this country, Having burst through the success barriers in a big way in 2003, when it set a new national meat sheep breeds record prize of \$35,000 at the annual Detpa Grove sale, it has continued to set the pace.

Many records were set on that sale day, but in 2005 that national record was broken by another Detpa Grove ram @ \$36,000. As a result of Detpa Grove's achievements over the last 5 years in particular, they have certainly earned the respect of stud and commercial breeders nationwide.

This year's Hamilton show was a new experience for David Pipkorn. After many years of dominating successes in the Hamilton show ring, he was given the honour of judging; thus Detpa Grove did not compete there. However they did still show at Adelaide with spectacular results earlier this month, as the only prelude to its annual sale in October.

With the White Suffolk breed having Feature Breed showing status, there were huge entry numbers. Detpa Grove won 8 classes plus Champion ram (for the 5th time in the last 7 shows), plus 2 seconds and a 5th and was clearly most successful exhibitor.

In a huge showing and exhibitors from 4 states, to achieve this level of success was a major achievement. The wins came in both the single shorn ram classes, May drop and June drop; both the April to June drop & the July to September drop pair of rams classes; the Lamb Production pair of rams class; the August to September drop young ewe class (where it also came second); the pen of 2 ewes class; & the Sire's progeny group of 1 ram & 2 ewes.

The April to June drop ewe from Detpa Grove was placed 5th, while their Breeders group was their other second placing.

Their ram Detpa Grove 'Cracker' 206/05 was then awarded Champion White Suffolk Ram under respected judge, Mr Keith McLauchlan, Whitmore, Tasmania. In doing so it enabled the Pipkorn family to win their 5th Champion ram award in the last 7 years at Australia's premier White Suffolk show and thus win the first Renrut Challenge Trophy outright.

In the interbreed judging 2 days later, 'Cracker' went on to be awarded the Supreme Shortwool ram of the show, to cap off a great showing.



Detpa Grove principal David Pipkorn announced at this show that it was the last appearance of Detpa Grove sheep in a competitive show ring. Time & work commitments in successfully instigating the stud's large and advanced breeding program, plus meeting the logistics and demand of establishing an ambitious export program, combined with the demands of a young and growing family have made showing on an ongoing basis virtually impossible. In this world people say 'it pays to never say never', but David Pipkorn is certainly comfortable with the family's decision at present.

With the success clients of Detpa Grove have had in the last few years, it is safe to predict the Detpa Grove stud name will continue to appear on many future prizewinners pedigree cards.

<< Photo:

Alexander Downer, Minister for Foreign Affairs, presents David Pipkorn with the award for Champion Ram at the Adelaide Royal Feature Breed showing with judge Keith McLauchlan looking on.