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APPENDIX. ‘FEEDING SHEEP FOR FINISHING’ QUESTIONNAIRE - REPORT AND RESPONSE SUMMARY

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Background
To address one of the objectives specified within the project namely to review current on-farm and other industry feeding systems, the project team conducted a survey by questionnaire investigating current on-farm practices for feeding sheep for finishing for slaughter in Western Australia. The purpose of the survey was to:

1. \textbf{Determine the current practice for grain finishing systems for sheep meat production in Western Australia.}
   There is considerable documentation and anecdotal evidence regarding the types of systems that are in place in Western Australia. However due to the recent increase in the value of sheep meat, as well as several consecutive poor seasons it was time to review current industry practices to assess any changes.

2. \textbf{Identify the key issues for sheep meat production.}
   This was to ensure that any suggested research would be relevant to industry.

3. \textbf{Ascertain the level of knowledge within industry.}
   The aim was to provide information to target any potential research focus.

4. \textbf{Assist in developing any targeted extension aspects of the project objectives.}

The specific role of the questionnaire in the overall context of the project was to be an indicator of the practices and attitudes of sheep meat producers within Western Australia. A function of the questionnaire was to give identify areas for future research and extension.

Questionnaire methodology
The project team discussed and agreed to focus on prime lamb finishing systems. It was considered that the majority of finishing systems involved lambs and sourcing a list of a large number of prime lamb producers was achievable within the available time frame. The team approached local alliances (Q Lamb and Prime Merino Lamb Alliance), WAMMCO (West Australian Meat Marketing Corporation), The Western Australian Department of Agriculture, and private consultants for potential questionnaire candidates. This approach was met with limited success with issues of confidentiality creating some difficulties. The plan followed was:

- the questionnaire draft was produced and distributed for peer review;
- 566 questionnaires were posted out in March 2003;
- 147 questionnaires were returned (27%) - within the accepted response rate range for typical questionnaire response (WA Department of Agriculture Biometrician, 2003, pers. comm.);
- 147 questionnaires were collated and analysed.
It is worth noting that the 27 per cent response was quite good considering the nature of the mail out, which would have included producers who finish lambs as suckers. Other producers were in the middle of a drought, so may not have had a production finishing system in place at the time of receiving the questionnaire.

**Questionnaire outline**

The questionnaire was divided into several sections addressing:

A. General background.
B. Flock structure and mating program.
C. Marketing.
D. How decisions are made as to when sheep are ready for sale.
E. Monitoring performance of lambs in a feedlot.
F. Setting up feedlot.
G. Feeding of lambs in feedlot.

The first four sections covered both lambs and other sheep, but only producers who finished lambs in feedlots were asked to complete the final three sections.

**Summary of results**

The response summary detailed below gives an overview of questionnaire responses. In addition a few of the more interesting elements of the questionnaire responses have been highlighted. A copy of the survey questionnaire follows the summary of results.

**General questions**

- **Do you use a feedlot system to ensure any of your lambs meet market requirements?**

  A large proportion of respondents (over 50%) use a feedlot system to finish some of their lambs (not surprising considering that the growing season in WA on average spans May to October).

- **Please choose the best description for your finishing system.**

  Of those who said they finish lambs, 58 per cent use small paddocks with self-feeders (Figure 1).

- **Is your finishing system permanent or opportunistic?**

  69 per cent of respondents suggested that their finishing system is a permanent part of their farming system.
Somewhat in contrast, when asked why they considered their feeding system permanent, a significant number of respondents gave justifications that related to an opportunistic system. Interestingly, some comments were based on a farming systems perspective, suggesting feedlots were used to allow paddocks to be locked up to prevent erosion, for feeding/mating ewes in the feedlot, or pasture manipulation for weed control.

Section B - Flock structure and mating program

• *Please provide more information on mating structure and breeds used in your sheep breeding program for 2002.*

Over 58 per cent of the respondents mated up to 50 per cent of their ewes to non-Merino rams in 2002. Where respondents had different lambing times for different lambing enterprises, most commented that lambing times were dictated by the amount of green feed available at lambing, as well as some marketing diversification. In some cases the reason was to reduce supplementary feeding costs.
Section C - Marketing lambs and other sheep

- **How did you assess whether lambs and other sheep were finished and ready for sale or slaughter?**

68 per cent of respondents indicated that they condition scored and weighed lambs; targeting an average market specification of 43 kg liveweight and condition score 3. Some respondents indicated that they used both liveweight/condition score and visual assessment as methods for determining that sheep were ready for sale. This suggests quite clearly that animals are visually assessed first, then producers follow up by measuring liveweight and condition score as confirmation. With older sheep, 78 per cent of respondents visually assessed animals for finishing.

![Graph showing assessment methods](image)

**Figure 3.** Assessment method used to determine when lambs or other sheep are ready for sale or slaughter.

- **How did you market your lambs fed for finishing during 2002?**

Respondents were asked to indicate (via a pick list) how they marketed their lambs during 2002. Choices included a list of local abattoirs (direct consignment), as well as saleyards, live export, forward contracts and CALM (Computer Aided Livestock Marketing). Most producers sold their lambs by direct consignment (65%), although only 24 per cent indicated they were with an alliance. An interesting result was that 14 per cent of respondents indicated they still marketed some of their lambs via the saleyards.

![Pie charts showing marketing methods](image)

**Figure 4.** Method of marketing for a) lambs and b) other sheep.
• *How did you market sheep other than lambs?*

58 per cent of respondents indicated that animals were marketed primarily through the sale yards or to live export. 31 per cent suggested some of their animals were sold directly to abattoirs.

**Section D - Monitoring the performance of lambs to determine market requirements**

• *Do you weigh your lambs?*

73 per cent of producers indicated that they weigh lambs that are finished in a feedlot. Of the 27 per cent of respondents who don’t weigh their lambs, most thought it unnecessary or didn’t have scales.

• *How often do you weigh your lambs?*

51 per cent of respondents who weigh lambs, do it either fortnightly or on feedlot entry and exit. Of the 25 per cent that said they weighed stock at other times, the majority commented on weighing just prior to, or at sale, or after a visual assessment.

![Bar chart showing how often lambs finishing in feedlots or confined areas are weighed.](image)

*Figure 5. How often lambs finishing in feedlots or confined areas are weighed.*

• *Do you condition score your lambs?*

56 per cent of respondents said they did condition score their lambs. 44 per cent of respondents said they did not. Of those who don’t, most believed it was not necessary. Some of the comments included: ‘if weight is ok so is fat’, ‘on pellets they don’t run to fat’, ‘visual good enough’. When producers measured condition score, it was assessed at the same time as weighing.

**Section E - Monitoring the performance of lambs in a feedlot**

*The remaining questions were only to be answered by those who had been feedlotting lambs in 2002. Only 78 respondents contributed to these last sections.*

• *Did you measure the growth rate of your lambs?*

61 per cent of respondents reported that they did not measure growth rate, yet a considerable number of producers weighed sheep into and out of the feedlot. Of those who responded with a ‘no’, most believed measuring growth rate was unnecessary or that they didn’t have enough time to measure growth rate. Of those who did conduct growth rate measurements, the most common average growth rate selected was 200-300 g/day (68%).
**Appendix**

**Figure 6.** Main reason identified for why growth rate was not calculated.

- **Did you measure the feed conversion ratio (FCR) of your lambs?**
  78 per cent of respondents answered 'no' to this question. The most common responses included, 'feed intake not measured', 'not necessary', or 'not enough time'. Of the 22 per cent of respondents who answered 'yes', the most common FCR range indicated was either 5:1 to 6:1 or 6:1 to 7:1.

- **Did you monitor how many weeks it took to finish your lambs?**
  79 per cent of respondents answered 'yes' to this question. Of that 79 per cent, 45 per cent took 5-6 weeks to finish and 2 per cent took 7-8 weeks to finish.

When asked what they considered to be the key issues for improving the animal performance monitoring or marketing of their sheep, producers responded with a considerable number of technical questions, on trough size, how to fat score, etc. Some of the more intriguing ones were those on economics of various entry and exit weights, shelter and how it affects growth rate, and feed cost analysis of using on-farm feed versus pellets.

**Section F - Setup of your feedlot or confined area**

- **Is the feedlot temporary or permanent?**
  78 per cent of respondents considered their feedlot to be a permanent fixture on their farm.

- **What type of feeding system do you use within your feedlot, or confined area?**
  93 per cent of respondents use self-feeders. The overriding reasons for self-feeder use are the ease of management and time effectiveness.
Troughs- 7%

Self feeders- 93%

Figure 7. Type of feeding equipment used in feedlot or confined area.

There are some concerns about feeding roughage effectively through self-feeders due to concerns with blockages. Some the responses reflected a concern about the inability to be able to control intake when using self-feeders. One respondent asked the question, 'Are we wasting profit?' The feedback to this set of questions suggested that there might be a swing back to troughs, in particular with those using loose mixes.

Section G - Feeding of lambs with in the feedlot/confined area

- What type of feed mix rations did you use in your lamb feedlot or confined area in 2002?

45 per cent of respondents used commercial pellets and 55 per cent used loose mix rations. As only 24 per cent of respondents were in an alliance where feeding pellets is a mandatory requirement, it appears that pellets are a feed of choice, rather than a requirement. Of those who use loose mix rations, 50 per cent produce their own loose grain mixes (as opposed to a Total Mixed Ration TMR).

Figure 8. Type of ration used in the feedlot or confined area.

When asked why they chose this ration type, the overriding reasons for pellets, were ease of handling, time efficiency, and that pellets were considered a complete ration.

Those who used loose mixes, talked about value adding on-farm produce (straw, screenings included) and the cost-effective nature of using on-farm produce. They also commented on the flexibility of being able to alter the ration.
It appears that home loose mixes are appealing, as they are seen as being a cheaper option when compared to pellets. This was certainly enhanced if using on-farm produce. Pellets on the other hand, are seen as a ready-made vitamin pill, and when coupled with a self-feeder, a fill and forget type mentality appears to be typical. Some of the respondents considered it more cost effective to sell grain and buy back pellets.

- **Did you use an introductory feed or introduction program in your feedlot during 2002 to reduce the risk of acidosis and allow lambs to adapt to grain feeding?**

  64 per cent of respondents said they did use an introductory program. Of those who did use some form of introductory program there was a wide variety in the type of program being employed. The main conclusion reached from these questions was that the concept of introducing stock gradually to new feeds was poorly understood by a vast majority of respondents. Consequently implementation of introductory programs on-farm appears to be inadequate.

- **How often do you feed your lambs?**

  90 per cent responded that lambs were given *ad libitum* access to feed, through self-feeders. Convenience, labour minimisation and ease, were all words used to describe the reasons why this method was applied. The small percentage of producers who controlled feed did so to limit intake (only feeding what is required) and to improve acclimatisation to feed.

![Figure 9. How often lambs in feedlot or confined area were fed.](chart)

- **What additional roughage did you use in your finishing system during 2002?**

  61 per cent of respondents utilised hay as part of the finishing ration. 69 per cent of those who used hay indicated oaten hay as their hay of choice. 23 per cent of responses indicated that they used no form of additional roughage. This 23 per cent were primarily those who were using a pellet, which contained a fibre component. Others were using a loose mix ration with no hay. Other respondents indicated they used straw.
Figure 10. Type of additional roughage used in feedlot or confined area.

- **How did you feed roughage in your finishing system?**
  
  62 per cent presented roughage as big hay bales in the pen or paddock. Very few used hay racks or weldmesh rings. 12 per cent incorporated roughage into the feed ration.

- **Did you use a lab analysis service to measure the quality of feed used in your feedlot?**
  
  66 per cent of respondents did not have their ration analysed for nutritional composition. The main reason for this was that it was not considered necessary.

- **Types/quantities of ingredients used in home mix rations and how they are mixed?**
  
  Wheat, oats and lupins appeared to be the primary sources of grain. Some respondents also used canola meal, hay, minerals and vitamins. There was a considerable variation on the quantities used and how they were formulated. Five-in-one bins and mix-alls appeared to be popular equipment for mixing rations.

- **Where do you obtain information for your finishing systems?**
  
  The Department of Agriculture featured as the most popular source of information followed closely by field days and workshops. Other sources of information included system suppliers, experience, stock agents and Independent Lab Services (Dr John Milton).
Some of the other issues raised by respondents with respect to their finishing enterprise

- Costs per head - 'Is it worth it when grain prices are high?'
- How to improve growth rates at no extra cost.
- Use of summer crops, mustard seed.
- Best growth rates in relation to protein (value for protein?).
- Self-feeders - 'Are we wasting profit?'
- Getting tail enders/shy-feeders to eat.
- The relevance and requirements for bypass protein in finishing lambs from 35 kg and above.
- Quality testing comparison of feed pellets.

Summary

This questionnaire served as a suitable medium by which to gain a better understanding of the current industry practices with reference to feeding sheep for finishing in Western Australia. Statistical values could not be drawn from the results; however, the results provided a clear indication of the current trends and practices within the industry. Equally important, was the insight it gave as to some of the philosophies and understandings of producers, and the farming systems that they have adopted.
FEEDING SHEEP FOR FINISHING QUESTIONNAIRE

Details

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

Phone number: ____________________________

Fax number: ____________________________

E-mail address: ____________________________

Average annual rainfall (mm): ____________________________

Annual rainfall received during 2002 (mm): ____________________________

SECTION A. General questions (please tick boxes)

DEFINITION: For the purpose of this questionnaire, a feedlot system is defined as an enclosed area where all feed and water are brought to the animal. This includes any grain finishing system from purpose built facilities through to small paddocks with self-feeders.

1. Based on the above definition, do you use a feedlot system to ensure any of your lambs meet market requirements?

☐ No, all lambs are sold as suckers (unweaned) (please complete sections A-D).

☐ No, lambs are finished using an extensive, pasture or fodder-based system (please complete sections A-D).

☐ Yes Please choose the best description for your finishing system.

☐ Purpose built, conventional feedlot

☐ Small paddock confinement using troughs

☐ Small paddock confinement using self-feeders

☐ Other (please describe): ____________________________

2. Based on the above definition, do you use a feedlot system to ensure any of your sheep other than lambs meet market requirements?

☐ No, other sheep are finished using an extensive, pasture or fodder-based system (please complete sections A-D).

☐ Yes Please choose the best description for your finishing system.

☐ Purpose built, conventional feedlot

☐ Small paddock confinement using troughs

☐ Small paddock confinement using self-feeders

☐ Other (please describe): ____________________________
3. If you have a feedlot finishing system, do you see your system as: (please tick)
   □ An opportunistic enterprise
   □ A permanent part of your farming system
   □ Other (please describe) __________________________
   □ Why do you consider this the best description for your system? __________________________

SECTION B. The next 4 questions relate to your flock structure and mating program

4. What was your flock structure as of 31 December 2002?
   a. Total number of sheep on property __________________________
   b. Number breeding ewes __________________________
   c. Number of working rams (Merino) ___________ (non-Merino) ___________
   d. Number of weaners (up to 12-months old) __________________________

5. Please provide more information on your breeding program for 2002 drop.
   a. Number of Merino ewes mated to Merino rams __________________________
   b. Number of Merino ewes mated to non-Merino rams __________________________
   c. Number of crossbred ewes mated to non-Merino rams __________________________
   d. Number of any other mating structure (please describe) __________________________

6. Did you have the same time of lambing for the different matings outlined in the previous question?
   □ Yes  Please indicate the approximate time of lambing (month)
          Start __________________________  End __________________________
   □ No   Please indicate the approximate time of lambing for each enterprise (month)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mating type</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merino ewe x Merino ram</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merino ewe x non-Merino ram</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Crossbred ewe x non-Merino ram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Why do you have a different time of lambing for different enterprises? __________________________

7. Please indicate what percentage of your breeding ewes fell into each age category in 2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White tags (01)</th>
<th>Yellow tags (97)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black tags (00)</td>
<td>Purple tags (96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue tags (99)</td>
<td>Green tags (95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red tags (98)</td>
<td>Orange tags (94)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION C. The next four questions relate to marketing lambs and other sheep that you FINISHED in 2002

8. For each class of sheep that you fed to finish, please indicate the approximate number sold in 2002.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of sheep</th>
<th>Number sold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merino lambs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbred lambs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoggets (two tooth)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shippers (sold for live export)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult wethers (sold for slaughter)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult wethers (sale yards/other method of sale)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cull ewes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. How did you assess whether lambs and other sheep were finished and ready for sale or slaughter?

- Liveweight (target) _______ and condition score (target) _______
- Visual assessment (yourself or stock agent)
- Fixed time of feeding (please specify length in weeks) _______
- No assessment
- Other (please specify) _______

10. How did you market the lambs and other sheep that you fed to finish during 2002 (please tick the most applicable categories)

- WAMMCO International
- Fletcher International Pty Ltd
- V and V Walsh Abattoir
- Hillside Meats
- Goodchild Abattoirs
- Direct consignment through another abattoir (please specify) _______
- Live export
- Sale yards
- Forward contract (please specify abattoir) _______
- CALM (Computer Aided Livestock Marketing)
- Other (please specify) _______
11. Did you market your lambs through an alliance during 2002?
   □ No
   □ Yes  Which alliance?  □ Q Lamb  □ Prime Merino Lamb Alliance  □ Other (please specify) 

SECTON D. The next two questions relate to monitoring the performance of lambs to determine when they would meet market requirements during 2002.

12. Did you weigh your lambs to monitor liveweight?
   □ No  What was the main reason that sheep were not weighed?
   □ Don’t have access to scales  □ Don’t have enough time
   □ Don’t have labour available  □ Don’t think it is necessary
   □ Other (please specify) 

   □ Yes  How often did you weigh?
   □ Feedlot entry and exit  □ Feedlot exit only
   □ Fortnightly  □ Monthly
   □ Other (please specify) 

13. Did you condition score your lambs to monitor fatness?
   □ No  What was the main reason?
   □ Not confident in ability to condition score  □ Don’t have enough time
   □ Don’t have labour available  □ Don’t think it is necessary
   □ Other (please specify) 

   □ Yes  How often did you condition score?
   □ Feedlot entry and exit  □ Feedlot exit only
   □ Fortnightly  □ Monthly
   □ Other (please specify) 

The remaining questions are only relevant to producers who are FEEDLOTTING LAMBS. If you did not feedlot lambs during 2002, thank you for your participation. You have now completed the survey and can return it:

By Fax: (08) 9881 1950  -  Attention Rodger Bryant
By Mail: In the enclosed postage paid envelope
SECTION E. The next four questions relate to monitoring the performance of lambs in a feedlot. Please SKIP this section if you do not use a feedlot.

14. Did you measure the growth rate of your lambs?
   □ No  What was the main reason that growth rate was not measured?
       □ Lambs were not weighed
       □ Not confident in ability to calculate growth rate
       □ Don’t have enough time
       □ Don’t think it is necessary
       □ Other (please specify) __________________________

   □ Yes  What was the flock average growth rate of lambs sold in 2002?
       □ Less than 100 g/day
       □ 100-200 g/day
       □ 200-300 g/day
       □ 300-400 g/day
       □ More than 400 g/day

15. Did you measure the feed conversion ratio (FCR) of your lambs, i.e. if a lamb eats 6 kilograms of feed for every 1 kilogram of liveweight gain the feed conversion ratio is 6:1?
   □ No  What was the main reason that feed conversion ratio was not measured
       □ Lambs were not weighed
       □ Feed intake was not measured
       □ Not confident in ability to calculate FCR
       □ Don’t have enough time
       □ Don’t think it is necessary
       □ Other (please specify) __________________________

   □ Yes  What was the flock average feed conversion ratio of lambs sold in 2002?
       □ More than 8:1
       □ 7:1-8:1
       □ 6:1-7:1
       □ 5:1-6:1
       □ Less than 5:1
16. Did you monitor how many weeks it took to finish your lambs?

☐ No  What was the main reason finishing time was not monitored?
     ☐ Don’t have enough time
     ☐ Don’t think it is necessary
     ☐ Other (please specify) ________________

☐ Yes  What was the average time it took for lambs to finish during 2002?
     ☐ Less than 3 weeks
     ☐ 3-4 weeks
     ☐ 5-6 weeks
     ☐ 7-8 weeks
     ☐ More than 8 weeks

17. Are there any issues related to animal performance monitoring or marketing for your finishing enterprise where you would like more information? (Please detail)

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

SECTION F. The next 4 questions relate to the SETUP of your FEEDLOT or confined area. Please SKIP this section if you do not use a feedlot.

18. Is the feedlot permanent or temporary? ________________________________

19. What is the total area of the feedlot in hectares? _______________________

20. What is the maximum number of lambs in the feedlot at any one time? _____

21. What type of feeding system do you use in your feedlot or confined area?

☐ Self-feeders (please indicate type or manufacturer) ________________________

☐ Troughs  Please indicate construction material of troughs?
     ☐ Commercial troughing
     ☐ Conveyor belting
     ☐ Shadecloth
     ☐ Galvanised iron
     ☐ Other (please specify) _______________________

☐ Other feeding system (please specify) ________________________________
SECTION G. The final 14 questions relate to the FEEDLOT and feeding of lambs within the feedlot or confined area. Please SKIP this section if you do not use a feedlot.

22. **What type of feed mix rations did you use in your lamb feedlot or confined area in 2002?**
   - [ ] Commercial pellets
     - [ ] Feed manufacturer
     - [ ] Product types/names
   - [ ] Commercial loose mix
     - [ ] Feed manufacturer
     - [ ] Product types/names
   - [ ] Formulated by a nutritionist - home mixed total mixed ration (TMR) (a TMR usually includes milled grain, milled roughage, e.g. hay, minerals and other additives mixed in a vertical mixer or feed wagon)
   - [ ] Formulated by a nutritionist - home mixed loose grain mix (a loose grain mix usually includes grain and maybe minerals but does not include milled roughage)
   - [ ] Your own mixture - home mixed total mixed ration (TMR) (see definition above)
   - [ ] Your own mixture - home mixed loose grain mix (see definition above)

23. **Why did you choose to use this type of feed ration?**

24. **What were the levels of crude protein (CP) and metabolisable energy (ME) in the feed ration?**

These nutrients are generally expressed as percentage crude protein on a dry matter basis (DM) and megajoules (MJ) of metabolisable energy (ME) per kilogram dry matter. If you are using a commercial ration or nutritionist, they will be able to provide this information. Please specify for each feed ration used.

   - [ ] Unknown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ration type</th>
<th>CP (% DM)</th>
<th>ME (MJ/kg DM)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
25. Did you use an introductory feed or introduction program in your feedlot during 2002 to allow the lambs to adapt to grain feeding?

☐ No  What was the main reason that an introductory period was not used?
  ☐ Grain/pellet type used not high risk for grain poisoning
  ☐ It is inconvenient
  ☐ Not aware of the need
  ☐ Other (please specify) ____________________________

☐ Yes  Please describe your introductory feeding program.

26. How often did you feed the lambs?

☐ Self-feeder system, feed available at all times (ad libitum)
☐ Twice daily
☐ Once daily
☐ Other (please specify) ____________________________

27. Why did you choose to feed this often?

28. What additional roughage did you use in your finishing system during 2002?

☐ None (please skip the next question)
☐ Hay (please specify type, e.g. oaten hay, pea hay) ____________________________
☐ Straw (please specify type, e.g. wheat, barley) ____________________________
☐ Silage (please specify type, e.g. oat, pasture) ____________________________
☐ Other (please specify) ____________________________

29. How did you feed additional roughage in your finishing system?

☐ Bales chopped and incorporated into the feed ration, e.g. total mixed ration
☐ Bales presented in hay racks
☐ Bales surrounded by weldmesh rings or panels
☐ Bales placed in pen or paddock  ☐ Big bales  ☐ Small bales
☐ Other (please specify) ____________________________
30. How many kilograms per day of each feed did you offer each lamb? Please fill in the sections that correspond to the type of feed you used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feed type</th>
<th>Feed offered (kg/head/day)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pellets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total mixed ration (TMR)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain mix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional roughage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Please SKIP the following 3 questions if you used COMMERCIAL feed rations.**

31. Do you use a laboratory analysis service to measure the quality of feed used in your feedlot?

☐ No  What is the main reason you don’t have feed analysed?

☐ Too expensive
☐ Don’t understand the results
☐ Don’t think it is necessary
☐ Other (please specify) ___________________________

☐ Yes

32. What proportion of each ingredient did you use in your home mixed feed ration during 2002? Please include additives such as molasses, urea, salt, lime, eskalin, etc. in ‘other’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient type</th>
<th>Kilograms per tonne</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grain 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grain 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hay or other roughage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mineral mix</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

33. Please describe how you mixed your ration.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
34. Where did you obtain information for your finishing system? (please tick all that apply)

☐ Feed/farm consultants
☐ Department of Agriculture
☐ Papers or magazines (please specify which ones)
☐ Field days, workshops or meetings
☐ Media (radio or television)
☐ Other producers with finishing systems
☐ Other sources (please specify) ______________________________________

☐ Farming Ahead - Kondinin
☐ Australian Farm Journal
☐ Countryman
☐ Farm Weekly
☐ On Farm - Holmes and Sackett
☐ Other ____________________

35. Are there any issues related to feeding in your finishing enterprise where you would like more information? (Please detail)

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

Thank you for your participation. You have now completed the survey and can return it by:
Fax: (08) 9881 1950 - Attention Rodger Bryant
Mail: In the enclosed postage paid envelope