



Making it Easier

James Hall



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“Average Client”

- Farms 1800 ha
- Crops 800 – 1000 ha
- Runs 10,000 – 12,000 dse

- 1.5 – 2.0 Labour Units



“Identify Your Constraints”



“For Our Clients”

- Short growing season.
- A long summer: H₂O, Supp. feeding, lamb survival, summer stocking rates .
- Access to labour.
- Production first, Quality second.



“Identify Your Target”

Run more / produce more with the same labour

Or

Run the same / produce the same with less labour



Making it Easier

- The System
- The Management
- The Livestock



A Sheep System

- Time of Lambing is the single biggest sheep system decision to make.
- Match it to your environment and indeed your farm system.

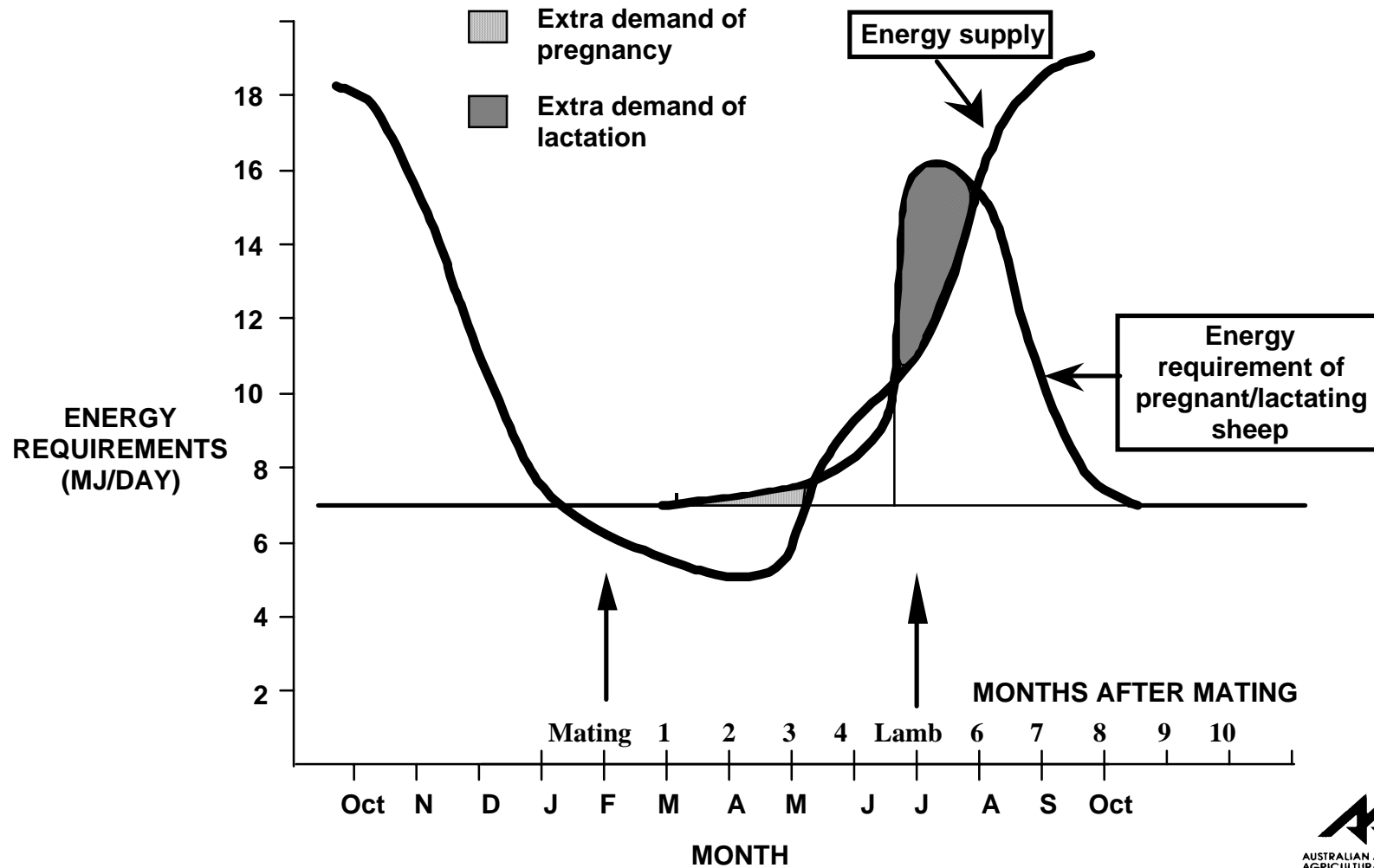


In a Mixed Farm System

- Seeding and Harvest Take Priority.
- We don't want ewes lambing at seeding.
- We want to keep lambs growing at harvest.

Environment is King

ENERGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY FOR JULY/AUGUST LAMBING EWES





Management Techniques

- Time is Money.....
- “Work expands so as to fill the *time* available for its completion.”

Prof C N Parkinson (1955).



Your Business

- Cost Yourself ?

Full time unit = \$45k, and runs 6000 dse



Cost Structure

<u>Item</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>\$ / DSE</u>
Sheep Costs	7.37	
Fertiliser	3.28	
Feed	3.75	
Pasture	0.10	
<u>Total Costs</u>	<u>14.61</u>	

	<u>DSE Managed</u>		
<u>Days Worked</u>	<u>6000</u>	<u>8000</u>	<u>10000</u>
100	\$3.41	\$2.56	\$2.04
160	\$5.45	\$4.09	\$3.27
220	\$7.50	\$5.63	\$4.50



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Management Techniques (Free)

- Multi tasking each muster
 - Crutching, Mules, fly treatments and drenching.
Does your system allow this?
 - The less time spent mustering the better.
- Run ewes in age groups
 - Less drafting, less mustering

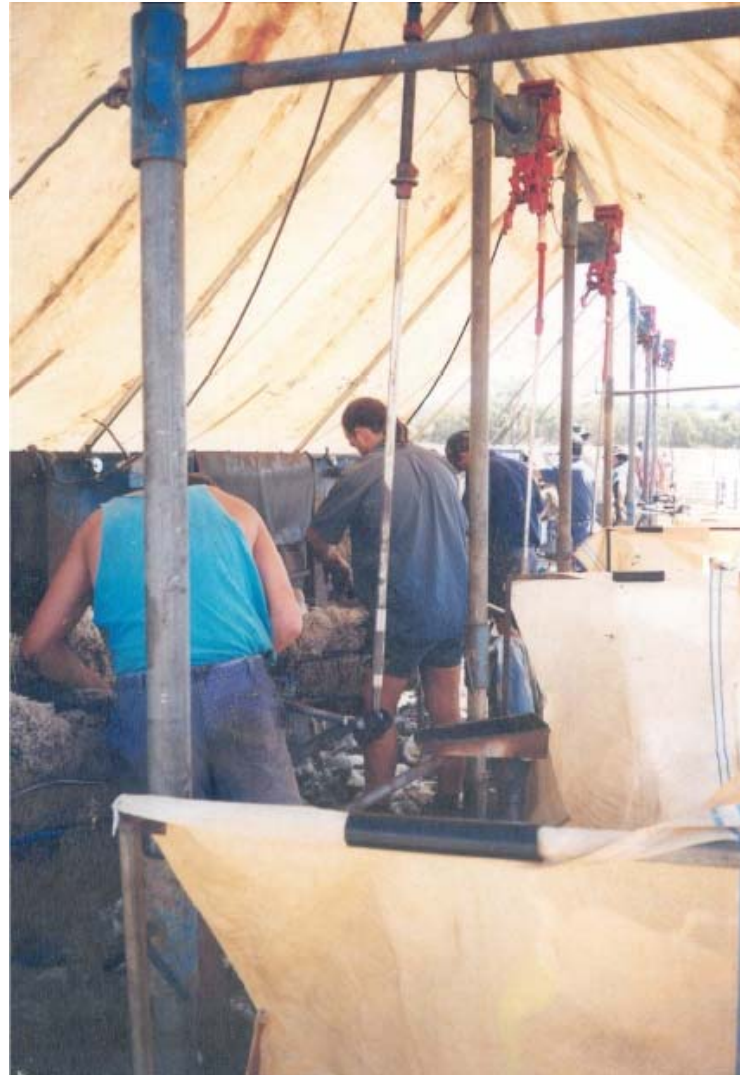


Management Techniques (Free)

- Fodder Crops
 - Improved lamb management, less work, spin off for ewes.
- Large Mobs
 - Less to check, less to feed, less critical points to go wrong, less to muster!
- Feeding
 - Choice of feed (lupins vs. others), feeders (Lick,scale), frequency.



Large Capacity





Large Capacity





Management Techniques (Some Cost)

- Lots of water
 - No water, no sheep.
- Good fences
 - Less Mustering, Biosecurity
- Lane ways
 - Faster more efficient muster.



Management Techniques (Do your Sums)

- Update Existing Infrastructure
 - Yards
 - Shed
- New Tools
 - Auto Draft
 - Remote Sensing



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Shelter for the team





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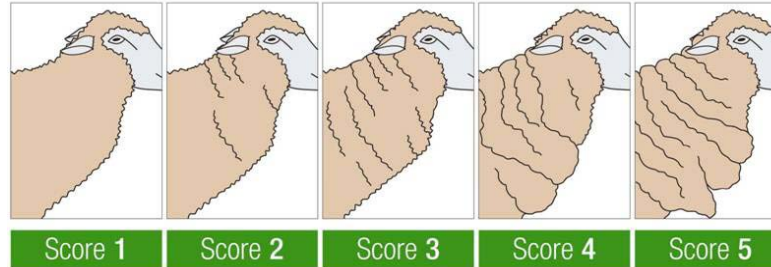


The Stock Themselves

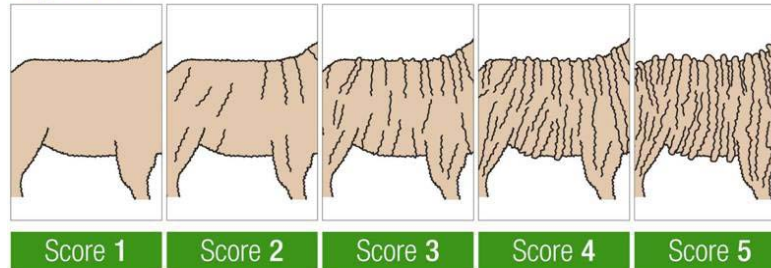
- Genetics is the free kick.
- Our objective is ease of care:
 - plain bodied to reduce problems and reduce time.
 - no lambing problems (no assisted lambing and cull dry sheep)

Plain Bodied Sheep

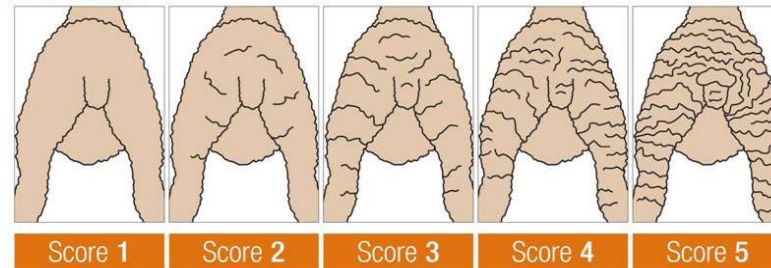
Neck wrinkle



Body wrinkle



Breech Wrinkle





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Sheep can Be Profitable and Enjoyable.

But it may well require investment

- In the System
- In the way you manage them
- In the stock themselves